

Libya, Tunisia maintain contacts

TUNIS (R) — The Foreign Ministers of Tunisia and Libya, Beji Caid Essebsi and Abdul Salam Tureiki, met Sunday to try to defuse tension which led Tunisia to recall its envoy to Tripoli last week, the Tunisian news agency TAP said Monday. The tension followed Libyan accusations that anti-government rebels who fought a gun battle in Tripoli on May 8 had infiltrated Libya through Tunisian territory. Tunisia has denied involvement and demanded the release of three national guards it says Libya kidnapped on Tunisian land. The ministers met on Saturday at an Arab foreign ministers meeting mostly devoted to the escalation of the Gulf war, diplomatic sources said. They said after Saturday's meeting Tunisia was taking a firm but restrained position and that Libya seemed willing to keep up a dialogue with Tunis while keeping up military pressure in the border area.

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Aziz, Sabah in Tokyo

TOKYO (AP) — The foreign ministers of Iraq and Kuwait arrived in Tokyo Monday for talks with leaders of this oil-dependent nation on recent escalation of attacks on neutral ships in the Gulf war. Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz and Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah were greeted by Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe at their arrival at Tokyo's Haneda Airport. On Tuesday morning the two ministers, visiting on behalf of the Arab League, will meet with Mr. Abe to explain the Arab League's position on the Iran-Iraq conflict, according to the resolutions adopted at the Arab League council at the foreign minister level held in Iraq in March, a foreign ministry official said. Mr. Aziz and Sheikh Sabah will also meet with Minister for International Trade and Industry Hikosaburo Okonogi Tuesday and attend a luncheon to be hosted by members of the Diet's (parliament) Japan-Arab Friendship League, the official said.

India denounces Israeli moves

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Indian government has denounced Israeli attempts to change the status of the occupied Holy City of Jerusalem, despite all international decisions against any such move, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra reported from New Delhi. In a communiqué issued in the Indian capital to mark Jerusalem Day, the Indian government called on all states which have diplomatic relations with Israel not to transfer their embassies to occupied Jerusalem, and said any such transfers would be illegal.

Egypt deplores Israeli measures

CAIRO (Agencies) — Israel's ambassador to Cairo Moshe Sasson, was summoned to the Foreign Ministry here Monday and informed of Egypt's condemnation of Israeli collective punishment policies in South Lebanon and territories occupied since the June 1967 Middle East war, the Middle East news agency said. The agency quoted a Foreign Ministry spokesman as denouncing Israel's policy of destruction of buildings which he described as a "clear violation of human rights and the Geneva Convention." The diplomatic protest follows an Israeli storming of the Ain Al Hilweh refugee camp in Sidon, South Lebanon, in which three refugees were killed last week.

EC ministers to debate Gulf

BRUSSELS (R) — European Community (EC) economics and energy ministers will hold an emergency discussion Tuesday on the effect of disruptions to Gulf shipping on Europe's oil supplies, a spokesman said Monday. The spokesman for the community's executive commission said ministers would discuss recent attacks on oil tankers in the Gulf but stressed that immediate action was unlikely in view of the current high level of oil stocks in the 10-nation group. Member states now hold stocks equivalent to about 100 days' consumption, so even a total closure of the Straits of Hormuz would not precipitate an immediate crisis, he said.

INSIDE

- Israel jails 4 Palestinians for life, page 2
- Jordan prepares report on health situation in occupied lands, page 3
- Numeiri's clamp-down may lash back, page 4
- Florida sparrow faces extinction, page 5
- Injury-hit West Germany seeks revenge against Italy, page 6
- West German strike spreads, page 7
- Gandhi tours riot sites as death toll rises, page 8

Iraq, Jordan review plan for pipeline

AMMAN (J.T.) — Proposals to build an oil pipeline between northern Iraq and the port of Aqaba were among topics of discussions Iraqi Oil Minister Qassem Ahmad Taqi held Monday with Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obaidat, Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism Jawad Al Anani and senior officials, according to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra.

Mr. Taqi, who arrived in Amman Sunday, held a round of talks with Dr. Anani Monday before the two ministers had a joint meeting with Mr. 'Obaidat later in the day.

Petra said the talks covered various aspects of commercial and economic relations between Jordan and Iraq and plans for the proposed crude oil pipeline were reviewed.

Details of the talks were not immediately available, but Mr. Taqi told Petra on arrival in Amman he would discuss the project in detail with the Jordanian government.

Petra quoted Mr. Taqi as saying the talks "were a continuation of previous negotiations" and added that they concerned "among other subjects, a project for laying of an oil pipeline running from the Iraqi border to the south port of Aqaba."

The projected Iraq-Jordan pipeline would allow Baghdad to export some of its oil through the Red Sea. As part of its Gulf war strategy, Iraq has blocked Iraq's use of its terminals on the Gulf.

Mr. Taqi also is no longer able to export to the Mediterranean port of Tartous in Syria, which has been backing Iraq in the war.

Last month in Baghdad, Iraq and Jordan signed an agreement under which Iraq would supply the Kingdom with oil in exchange for food supplies and the transport of Iraqi goods via Jordan. The flow of traffic between Aqaba and Baghdad is handled by the Joint Jordanian-Iraqi Transport Company.

Iraq, which moves all but a small part of its oil by a pipeline from its northern oil centre of Kirkuk to the Turkish Mediterranean coast, also plans to build a pipeline to the Saudi Arabian Red Sea port of Yanbu, according to Reuters.

In March, a spokesman for Bechtel INC of the United States said the company had forwarded plans for the pipeline to Aqaba, while industry sources in New York said the project could be built for \$1 billion in six to 12 months, Reuters said in a dispatch from Amman on Monday.

Beirut factions seek to widen buffer zones

BEIRUT (AP) — Warring Lebanese factions are seeking a formula for widening buffer zones between fighters to avert new battles and clear the way to open more crossing points in Lebanon's divided capital, sources said Monday.

The sources, close to the ongoing mediation efforts among the warring militias, laid the main antagonists have agreed to this suggestion and instructed their military experts to work out the technical details.

More than 60 people have been killed and 450 wounded since April 19, when a 2,000-man disengagement force of Lebanese police, army reservists and draughts deployed along the confrontation lines to separate combatants. The buffer zones vary in width, but in some places the fighters remain no more than 50 metres apart.

"What we are now trying to do is a new formula that would prevent the combatants from seeing and hearing each other," said one source. Security reports often have indicated that clashes are sparked by exchanges of taunts followed by sniper fire.

Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt's two closest aides — Khaled Junblatt and Marwan Hamadeh — on Monday briefed Shiite Muslim leader Nabih Berri on the meeting Saturday between Mr. Junblatt and mainly Christian rightist militia leader Fadi Frem at which, according to the source, the two suggested widening the buffer zones.

Sources close to Mr. Berri quoted him as telling the two PSP officials that he was in favour of "any measure that would solidify the ceasefire."

West Beirut residents suffer under restrictions on movement, page 2

1 dead, 4 injured in Israeli raid on Bekaa

BEIRUT (R) — Israeli aircraft Sunday made a surprise air raid on pro-Iranian Shiite militants in eastern Lebanon, wounding four members of the Hizbollah group at a military camp and killing a farmer in a nearby field.

The raid was the first in the Syrian-held Bekaa Valley since Jan. 4, when about 100 people were killed and 400 wounded in and around the provincial capital of Baalbek.

An Israeli military spokesman in Tel Aviv claimed the target was a base used as a training centre and departure point for commandos attacking Israeli troops in the occupied South.

But it was not preceded by any outstanding operations behind Israeli lines and it came at a time when Hizbollah and other Iranian-backed groups in the Bekaa are under Syrian pressure to scale down their operations.

Nabih Berri, leader of the mainstream Shiite Amal Movement and a minister in Lebanon's new "national unity" cabinet, said the raid was an attempt to draw Syrian forces into battle.

The ruling Likud coalition in Israel wanted "to change the equation in the Israeli elections" later this year, he added.

The site of the raid, on the outskirts of Janta village, is only five kilometres from the Syrian border.

First reports said surface-to-air missile sites, presumably Syrian, were one of the targets of the four Israeli planes, but the evidence on the ground did not support this.

Reuters correspondent Ramez Ismail, who examined the site from a nearby hill, said the shells fell only in and around the camp and on nearby hills, where the militants man their own generally ineffective anti-aircraft guns.

The private rightwing radio station "Voice of Lebanon" said the raid coincided with a massing of Syrian and Israeli forces along the front lines.

Beirut radios and newspapers have persistently carried reports of a troop build-up in the Bekaa but diplomats say the only movements they have detected are seasonal redeployments.



Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obaidat (right) and Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism Jawad Al Anani (left) Monday confer with Iraqi Oil Minister Qassem Ahmad Taqi (to Mr. 'Obaidat's right) and Iraqi Ambassador to Jordan Ibrahim Shuja Sultan (Petra photo)

No Mideast peace without Israeli withdrawal, Benin minister says

By Lamis K. Andoni
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A just and durable peace in the Middle East can be achieved only if Israel withdraws from all the occupied Arab territories and recognises the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, Benin Foreign Minister Tiamou Abijade said Monday.

Mr. Abijade, who concluded a three-day visit to Jordan Monday evening, said that his country's position towards the Arab-Israeli conflict is based on a "principled support for the Palestinian cause and belief in the inadmissibility of the occupation of others' territories by force."

Mr. Abijade, who has serving as the African country's foreign minister since 1982, expressed his country's view that a just and comprehensive settlement to the Middle East problem should be based on total Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories. The Jewish state's abandonment of its expansionist policies, and its recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people including the right to self-determination in their homeland, and its acceptance of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Relations with Jordan

Mr. Abijade's visit to Jordan marked the first-ever by a Benin official to the Kingdom. "This visit, which aimed at exchanging first-hand information about the two countries, will be the starting point of building a strong Benin-Jordan relationship," he said.

The two countries do not have diplomatic relations but Mr. Abijade expressed hope that the growing bilateral relations and co-operation would culminate in the establishment of diplomatic relations. Syria and Iraq are the only Arab countries having diplomatic relations with Benin. These two countries are represented by their respective ambassadors in Nigeria who act as non-resident ambassadors to Benin, Mr. Abijade said.

Mr. Abijade was named as Benin's foreign minister in 1982 thus joining the longest-serving government the African state has ever had since its independence in 1960. The government of Lieutenant-Colonel Ahmad Kerekou ascended to power in 1972 and has reportedly aborted several coup attempts allegedly backed by France.

The former French colony was originally called Dahome but in 1975 it was renamed the People's Republic of Benin, two years after the government proclaimed "Marxist-Leninist scientific socialism" as the guiding principle of its policies and the 44-member national revolutionary council was later replaced by an elected 336-member national revolutionary assembly.

"We maintain a principled stance in support and solidarity with all nations who struggle for liberation and self-determination," Mr. Abijade said.

Benin lacks some of the most essential vaccines to prevent diseases resulting from drought, Mr. Abijade said.

The international community should work in solidarity with the African people to help them surmount the crisis and pass through this desperately difficult period," he said.

Mr. Abijade, who left for Saudi Arabia Monday evening, said that his visit originally included several other Arab countries but it was later confined to Jordan and Saudi Arabia because of "the latest developments in the Gulf."

Commenting on Israeli overtures for relations with African states, the Benin minister likened the Israeli government to the South African government which "does not respect the territorial integrity of its neighbours."

"I do not think that the Arab countries should do anything in particular to erase the Israeli influence in Africa," he said. "It is in the interests of the African governments, which maintain relations with Israel to come to understand Israel's ambitions in the continent and the consequent effects on African countries."

Mr. Abijade talked about "the desperate economic situation that characterise African countries" and called for international solidarity with the people of Africa.

"The African economy has been badly affected by the world economic crisis," he said. "There is not enough water to drink and there is a severe scarcity of cereals which are the basic foodstuff in Africa."

Liberalism threaten to quit Herut partnership

TEL AVIV (AP) — The fate of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's coalition government hung in the balance Monday after its junior liberal faction warned it might end a 19-year partnership with Mr. Shamir's Herut faction.

In a surprise move Sunday night, Liberal faction leader Yitzhak Moda'i recommended that his party split from Herut faction and run as a separate party in elections July 23.

But in a sudden turnaround, Mr. Moda'i, who is also energy minister, agreed to let Mr. Shamir address the Liberal central committee before a final decision is made. Mr. Shamir met with Mr. Moda'i for brief discussions Monday, Israel Radio reported.

Deputy Prime Minister David Levy, who has been conducting coalition talks with the Liberals, said on Israel Radio that Mr. Moda'i had reversed an earlier written agreement to stay with the Likud and he claimed Mr. Moda'i was playing a tactical war of nerves to gain concessions from Herut.

But observers said that Mr. Moda'i's threat may have opened a Pandora's box that could break up the alliance that has formed the basis of Israel's government for seven years.

The Herut (liberty) party was founded by the former Likud Premier Menachem Begin, who resigned last year. In 1965 he formed the coalition party with the Liberals, which helped pave the way for his rise to power in 1977.

Since 1965 Herut's electoral popularity has grown and the Liberals are considered over-represented in the coalition. Herut wants to reduce the Liberal seats and amalgamate the two factions. The Liberals have 18 of the Likud's parliamentary seats, including six cabinet posts, while Herut has 28 seats and eight cabinet posts.

The Liberals want to maintain close to their present representation in the Likud, but are expected to win only two or three seats if they contest the election alone.

If the Liberals leave the Likud, middle-of-the-road government supporters are likely to switch their vote to more centrist parties. These parties could help the opposition Labour Party form a government after the election.

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GCC formally requests U.N. debate

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — A representative of six Arab Gulf states said Monday he had requested an urgent meeting of the U.N. Security Council to consider ways of halting Iranian attacks on Arab shipping in the Gulf. Abdulla Bishara, secretary-general of the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC), said he wants the 15-nation U.N. Security Council "to consider the Iranian attacks on the navigational routes and on Kuwaiti and Saudi ships outside the war zone and... the serious implications and grave consequences of such attacks on the stability of the area and (their) repercussions on world peace and security." The six Arab Gulf states — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates and Oman — want the Security Council to take steps "to contain the tension." Mr. Bishara told reporters after making a formal request for a council meeting.

Gulf states discuss joint defence strategy

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Gulf Arab states were reported to be discussing collective defence plans in Riyadh Monday following last week's upsurge in attacks on shipping in the Gulf as a result of the Iran-Iraq war.

The Kuwaiti news agency KUNA said a Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) technical committee was to study security and protection of member states' interests.

Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah was quoted by a Beirut newspaper, An Nahar, as saying collective military defence arrangements were being formulated by the Gulf council states and might be ready this week.

The three-year-old council comprises Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and Oman in a grouping to co-ordinate defence and economic policies.

A series of air attacks last week on tankers, including ones owned by Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, have heightened tension in the Gulf, through which about a sixth of the non-communist world's oil imports pass.

Reuters correspondent Nicholas Moore reported from Riyadh that the few clues there as to Saudi intentions suggested the kingdom would persist in diplomatic moves to defuse the crisis, but did not exclude limited military measures.

A spokesman at the headquarters of the GCC in the Saudi capital would not confirm that the technical committee met Monday. Diplomats speculated, however, that any such meeting might chart new inshore shipping lanes for tankers using the northern Gulf and co-ordinate protective measures.

Iraq said Sunday it would keep up air strikes aimed at halting Iran's exports. Iran, blamed by Gulf council states for attacks on Saudi and Kuwaiti tankers, said it would retaliate against such strikes.

Sheikh Sabah was quoted by An Nahar, in an interview in Tunis, as saying Kuwait would not object to foreign military intervention to protect shipping in the Gulf.

"I am not entitled to object to this because the Gulf is an international Gulf and not a Kuwaiti, Omani, Qatari or even an Arabian Gulf," Sheikh Sabah was quoted as saying.

The United States, while has pledged to maintain safe passage in the Gulf, has several warships inside the waterway and a carrier-led task force, along with some British and French warships, outside.

The Kuwaiti News Agency, meanwhile, quoted the director of the Kuwaiti defence minister's office as saying the technical committee meeting in Riyadh followed a decision by foreign ministers of the Gulf council states who met on Thursday.

The Kuwaiti daily Al Watan also said the committee would discuss new routes for Arab tankers, running parallel to the coasts of Arab Gulf states and within range of shore-based anti-aircraft batteries.

Arab and Western diplomats quoted by the Associated Press said Sunday that Kuwait and Saudi Arabia were sending reconnaissance planes over oil tanker routes south of the Iraq-Iran war zone.

Iraq has been attacking ships for months in a war zone it declared around Iranian ports. U.S. officials said last week Iran apparently has begun retaliating by attacking Arab shipping.

Shipping sources in the Gulf have reported a drop in voyages to Iran's main oil export terminal at Kharg Island, a focus of Iraqi attacks in the northern Gulf during the past week.

Oil tanker traffic in the Gulf has been reduced to a virtual standstill in the last week with shipowners unwilling to risk a further attack. London's Financial Times reported Monday.

Shipping insurance rates have at least doubled since the attack last week on two Kuwaiti tankers and one Saudi vessel.

In the last week, eight ships in the Gulf have reportedly been attacked, as the 44-month-old Iran-Iraq war heats up.

Rates to insure a standard long-haul tanker on a trip from the Iranian Kharg Island to Rotterdam, Holland, have more than doubled to over \$5 million, the paper said.

A leading Lloyd's of London insurer said Thursday that hull and cargo insurance rates for the area more than tripled during the week from 0.075 per cent of value to 0.25 per cent, and cargo premiums roughly doubled to 0.05 per cent.

Japan foresees no halt to oil flow from Gulf, page 2

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Japanese aide foresees no halt to oil supplies

TOKYO (R) — An Arab League mission led by the Iraqi and Kuwaiti foreign ministers arrived in Tokyo Monday for talks on the Iran-Iraq war as Japan's trade minister said he did not foresee a halt to oil supplies to Japan from the Gulf.

The mission, headed by Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz and Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah, is due to meet government officials Tuesday for talks which are expected to concentrate on Iraq's escalating war with Iran.

Japan's Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe briefly paid a courtesy call on them Monday.

Meanwhile International Trade and Industry Minister Hikosaburo Okonogi told reporters that "there is no fear of oil supply stoppage" to Japan from the Gulf area because of an escalation of the war.

He added: "There is no basic problem with oil prices and imports by Japan and we will watch closely moves of the two warring nations."

Japan has now stockpiles of crude equivalent to 120 days.

Foreign Ministry officials said the Arab League mission would brief Japanese leaders on an Arab League conference in Tunis last weekend.

The Tunis meeting, with Syria and Libya dissenting, branded Iran as the aggressor in the 44-

month war with Iraq which escalated sharply last week as six ships were attacked in the Gulf.

The Foreign Ministry officials said the mission might ask Japan, which trades with both countries, to join efforts to arrange a ceasefire. Tokyo, while rejecting a formal mediating role, has tried to persuade both countries to negotiate.

The Arab League mission will meet Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone and Emperor Hirohito during its four-day visit.

Gulf coast on alert

Meanwhile, Gulf shipping centres were alert Monday for fresh reports of ships in distress as Iran and Iraq appeared intent on continuing their attacks on tankers using the waterway.

Iraq said Sunday it would keep up air strikes aimed at halting Iran's oil exports and Iran again said it would retaliate against such attacks.

Iranian Prime Minister Mir-Hossein Mousavi said: "Our policy is to deal a stronger blow against any blow."

This theme was taken up throughout the day by Tehran Radio and the official Iranian News Agency IRNA.

The radio said hundreds of thousands of people had demonstrated in cities in southwestern Iran in protest against United States "provocations" in the Gulf and demanding a general mobilisation to confront them.

It said residents in one town chanted slogans such as "Death to America" and "War, War Until Victory".

In Tehran, Iranian President Hojatoleslam Ali Khamenei said it was unreasonable to expect Iran to accept that it could not export its oil while others continued to ship theirs freely.

He did not refer to the air strikes, which crippled six ships in six days.

Intense diplomatic efforts continued to try to persuade the two countries to draw back from confrontation in the sea lanes and avoid any intensification of their long conflict.

President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt called for international help to end the fighting before it worsened and U.S. Vice-President George Bush urged a negotiated settlement.

"We would hope the two belligerents would reconsider the perilous road that they are moving down," Mr. Bush said at the end of a visit to Oman.



Election banners in a Cairo street are displayed recently as part of the parliamentary election in Egypt on May 27 (AP wirephoto)

Egyptian candidates use camels, boats and cars to reach voters

By Ahmad Sawki
Reuters

PORT SAID, Egypt (R) — Candidates for Egypt's next parliament are using camels, cars and motor boats to take their election promises and party platforms to remote areas.

In the Suez Canal cities of Port Said, Ismailia and Suez, motor boats covered with party posters and banners bring the election campaign to port workers and fishermen.

Party supporters make treks of one or more days on camel-back to reach voters living in the desert, while members of the ruling National Democratic Party (NDP) in the Mediterranean city of Marsa Matruh hope to use helicopters to ferry them to less accessible regions.

In towns and villages, streets are decorated with posters and banners of all five political parties contesting the May 27 elections.

"Every vote can be crucial in the forthcoming elections. It's not strange that candidates make every possible effort to reach voters and encourage them to show up on May 27," said one NDP official.

Sayed Sarhan, NDP member and former governor of Port Said, attends daily political rallies to explain his party's achievements, almost daily reminding voters of how they have benefited from Port Said's status as a "free zone city" (free port).

Merchants generally stand by the NDP "out of fear if the party fails, the opposition may change the city's status," one shopowner said.

But all opposition candidates claim they would leave Port Said's status unchanged, or even enhance it.

Mr. Sarhan, at a weekend rally, told voters his government had built 19,000 flats and solved most of the city's drinking water and electricity problems over the past six years.

He said 20,000 new telephone lines were installed and efforts were made to improve infrastructure, a crucial factor in the day-to-day business life of this 115-year-old city with a population of 100,000 people.

Opposition parties — the New Wafd, the Socialist Labour Party (SLP), the Unionist Progressive Party (UPP) and the Liberal Socialists (LSP) — focus on what they call the government's "failure to solve domestic problems."

One harbour worker who is a member of the Wafd Party said most of his fellow workers would vote for the Wafd.

"We still live in huts... we have no clean drinking water at home and we have no electricity," he said. "Our problems will be solved with a Wafd government."

Opposition candidates promise to improve living conditions in the villages while NDP candidates tell the public the party has been successful in achieving the withdrawal of Israel from Sinai, occupied for 15 years after the 1967 Arab-Israeli war.

The semi-official newspaper Al-Ahram, in an election report last week, predicted that hedonistic inhabitants would support the NDP since they were not familiar with the opposition parties.

Israel jails 4 Palestinians for life

NABLUS, Occupied West Bank (AP) — An Israeli military court Monday sentenced seven young Palestinian men for killing a Jewish seminary student in the West Bank city of Hebron.

Four of the men were sentenced to life imprisonment, while the others were given prison terms of 20 to 25 years.

Their mothers screamed and wailed when the presiding judge, Col. Amnon Strasnov, announced the sentences, but the convicted men stood silently in front of Col. Strasnov and the other two members of the military tribunal.

One of the defendants raised both hands in the air, his fingers extended in "V for Victory" signals. The mother of Adnan Ashah Abu Snehneh, one of the four sentenced to life, ran from the courtroom and fainted in the military compound surrounding the court.

Earlier in the day, when Col. Strasnov read the verdicts, he said the three-judge tribunal had unanimously found the seven Palestinians guilty of killing 19-year-old Aharon Gross "with the intention of conducting a holy war against Israel and to impose the rule of Islam in Israel by force."

Gross' murder last July 7 set off

a chain of Jewish reprisals that peaked with a shooting rampage three weeks later in Hebron's Islamic University.

Three Palestinian students were killed and 33 wounded in the assault on the university, which police suspect was carried out by a highly skilled and tightly organized ring of Jewish terrorists. Police arrested more than two dozen suspected members of a Jewish underground after foiling a plot to blow up Palestinian buses in occupied Jerusalem April 27.

About 40 spectators attended the sentencing. They were evenly divided between relatives and supporters of the defendants and the slain Jewish seminary student. They sat on opposite sides of the heavily guarded courtroom. Outside, Israeli sharpshooters surveyed the area from rooftop positions.

Roads leading to the Israeli military compound were closed in Nablus, the largest town in the West Bank which has often been a centre of Palestinian nationalist protests and friction with Israeli Jews from nearby settlements. There was no visible sign of trouble in the city after the sentencing.

Ibrahim Mohammad Abdul Rafshan Sirjil, the alleged leader of the Palestinian group, showed no remorse when asked to make a statement before sentencing. "We will continue a Jihad (holy war) to defend ourselves and our honour," he said.

Sirjil, 26, one of the four sentenced to life imprisonment, was accused of giving the order to kill Gross. The other three given life sentences were charged with actually carrying out the killing. They were Adnan Ashah Abu Snehneh, 21, Zuad Omar Abu Snehneh, 21, and Hani Mahmoud Abu Esh-hah, 19.

Tehar Mahmoud Mohammad Shalan, 20, and Khair Rageb Mahmoud Al Sasur (C), 19, were given 25-year sentences, while Mahmoud Asker, 24, received a 20-year term. They were accused of being accessories in the case.

An eighth defendant, Elayaz Akmat Alragbi, 25, was found guilty of membership in their group and sentenced to 10 years.

The prosecution said all eight had undergone military training with Faich, Yasser Arafat's faction of the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

West Beirutis penned up like caged birds

By David Betts
Reuters

BEIRUT — Sales of caged songbirds have been brisk lately in west Beirut where almost a million people penned up between the sea and the "green line" see themselves in a similar plight, looking out at the world from behind bars.

Since Beirut Port and airport were shut in February, when opposition militiamen seized west Beirut from army control in heavy fighting, escape from this side of the Lebanese capital has been difficult, expensive, uncomfortable and sometimes impossible.

The airport has been forced to close many times since the civil war started in 1975. When it is open, travel is easy and relatively cheap.

For most people of west Beirut and the southern suburbs the airport is only a 15- or 20-minute taxi ride away. A flight to Larnaca, Cyprus takes only 25 minutes and costs 364 Lebanese pounds (\$63), and it is only an hour or so by air to Damascus, Amman, Istanbul or Cairo.

But now for those wishing to escape from the shooting, shelling, kidnappings and general chaos of west Beirut it is a choice between an expensive and dangerous drive to Damascus, an uncomfortable sea crossing to Cyprus or a hazardous journey through the Shouf Mountains south to Israel.

The trip to the Israeli border could take several days because Israeli occupation forces in South Lebanon frequently close the roads. In any case, for most Beirutis such a journey is out of the question for legal, political or personal reasons.

So most residents of mainly Muslim west Beirut choose these days to stay at home, often spending all day in their pyjamas and dressing gowns and not bothering to dress or go outdoors.

They send out for food, tend their plants, chat with family and friends, and pray for the war to end, the airport to reopen, and for more crossing points to be punched through the "green line" separating them from mainly Christian east Beirut.

Many pass their time eking for and admiring their caged songbirds, budgerigars and canaries, which have increased in popularity in recent years and with which many Beirutis appear to identify — beautiful creatures with nowhere to go.

As a language exercise, a west Beirut school teacher this month set her class of 12-year-olds the task of writing an imaginary dialogue between a caged bird and a free bird. Most of the children, who have grown up in a decade of war, identified with the caged bird.

They felt the bird behind bars was safe from danger, got fed regularly and had no responsibilities or troubles. The free bird, they wrote, was in danger and could be shot at any time.

For those who must, or feel they must, "travel abroad" from west Beirut while the airport remains shut, the only direct link with the outside world is an uncertain hydrofoil service that runs to Cyprus a few times a week from the sea-front.

As west Beirut has no port or harbour, the hydrofoil waits off the main military, a former officers' club at the north-west tip of Beirut, while intrepid travellers are shuttled out — often standing up — in wooden fishing boats.

The 130-minute trip to Larnaca is supposed to take four hours, but formalities at both ends can add as much time again, and the transfer of passengers and baggage from bobbing boats to the hydrofoil can be heart-stopping in the slightest swell.

A second route is by road to

Damascus through the only official opening in the Green Line, the Museum Crossing Point in central Beirut, where there is daily sniping and shelling. When traffic is heavy it can take five hours or more to cross.

Taxi companies now charge 1,300 to 1,500 pounds (\$225 to \$260) for the trip to Damascus, compared with about 500 pounds (\$80) before the February military flare-up.

The peacetime trip to Damascus used to take about 90 minutes. Now it is four to five hours, and the traveller encounters up to 30 checkpoints run by various militia groups, the Lebanese army, and the Syrian army and police.

A third route in the outside world is through the Museum Crossing Point to the port of Jounieh, about 19 kilometres north of the city, from where ferries ply to Cyprus.

Because Jounieh Port is shallow, the ferries stand out in sea and passengers are shunted to them in small barges. The single fare is 750 pounds (\$130) for a seat on an overnight trip through the often choppy eastern Mediterranean.

But Jounieh is deep in territory controlled by Falangist "Lebanese Forces" militiamen, and most of west Beirutis do not dare venture there.

The city is clogged with high-powered American, Japanese and European cars, but the caged motorists of west Beirut have little opportunity to get up speed or cruise along an open road.

On Sundays thousands drive up and down the Corniche, a five-kilometre boulevard along the sea-front. Even this limited stretch has been shortened recently — by United States Marines who have blocked it off near its northern end in front of the British embassy, where U.S. diplomats have difficulties.

Ozal visiting Libya to boost trade

ANKARA (R) — Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal leaves for Libya Tuesday in an effort to boost bilateral trade and settle the issue of delayed payments to Turkish contractors there, officials said Monday.

Mr. Ozal, who came to power last December in general elections that ended three years of military rule, is making the three-day official visit despite U.S. concern over such a trip by the prime minister of a NATO alliance member state.

Last weekend, State Minister Ismail Ozdaglar and about 100 businessmen went to Tripoli for

initial contacts with Libyan officials on joint investments and boosting trade, the officials said.

The United States, which severed diplomatic ties with Libya in 1980, last week counselled Turkey against maintaining close ties with Libya and urged it to cancel a long-standing invitation for Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi to visit Ankara.

A Turkish Foreign Ministry spokesman said Turkey told Washington it could not accept any interference in its relations with Libya.

Mr. Ozal told a news conference

on Friday his trip to Libya "had been decided a long time ago. We saw no necessity to change it."

Foreign Ministry officials said the U.S. request was part of American policy to isolate Libya internationally and that similar messages had been sent to other member countries of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO).

During the visit, Mr. Ozal is expected to initial an economic protocol following the 11th meeting of the Turkish-Libyan Joint Economic Committee in Tripoli, which has already started.

Somali envoy says more rebels defecting

NAIROBI (AP) — An additional 75 Somali insurgents have fought their way through Ethiopian troops to join 106 guerrillas who defected in the Somali government this week, the Somali Charge d'Affaires said Monday.

Abdi Hajj Liban said fierce fighting could be heard in the Ethiopian-occupied Goldogob area and that escaping insurgents said hundreds of their fellow fighters have already been killed.

At a news conference at the Somali embassy, the charge d'affaires appealed for world pressure on Ethiopia to halt the fighting.

A spokesman for the Ethiopian and Libyan-backed Democratic Front for the Sal-

vation of Somalia telephoned journalists in Nairobi early Monday to deny the claims of Somali government.

The spokesman, based in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, said Somali forces actually were joining the guerrillas.

Mr. Liban said the defecting insurgents fought their way out with five Soviet T-55 tanks with Libyan military markings and three four-wheel-drive vehicles armed with machine guns.

Goldogob and Balenbale, two small central Somali villages near the Ethiopian border, were occupied in July 1982 by Ethiopian forces according to the Somali government of President Moh-

ammad Siad Barre. Mr. Liban maintained that 10,000 to 15,000 Ethiopian troops remain in the salient.

Mr. Liban said the defecting were in a faction opposed to front leader Abdullahi Yusuf. Ethiopia also backs the Somalia National Movement, which has been more active than the front, operating mostly in the north.

Somalia and Ethiopia have been adversaries for centuries in the Horn of Africa.

The two countries last fought a major conflict in 1977-78 which began with a Somali invasion of the disputed Ogaden region of southeastern Ethiopia.

TV & RADIO

WHAT'S GOING ON

FOR THE TRAVELLER

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

JORDAN TELEVISION	BBC WORLD SERVICE
	630, 720, 1412 KHz.
MAIN CHANNEL	06:00 Newsdesk 06:30 Patrick Martin's Music Box 06:45 Financial News 06:55 Reflections 07:00 World News 07:00 24 Hours: News Summary 07:30 A Treasury of Music 07:45 The World Today 08:00 Newsdesk 08:30 The Glynedebourne Suite 09:00 World News 09:05 24 Hours: News Summary 09:30 Iberia, Iberia 09:45 London Royal 10:00 World News 10:05 Reflections 10:15 Such Sweet Harmony 10:30 Thirty Minute Theatre 11:00 World News 11:05 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:40 Financial News 11:45 Look Ahead 11:45 Sing A Song of London 12:00 Discovery 12:30 Pageant of the Past 13:00 World News 13:05 News about Britain 13:15 Letter from the World 14:00 Outlook: News Summary 14:30 Stock Market Report 14:45 Look Ahead 14:45 That's That! 22:00 World News 22:05 24 Hours: News Summary 22:30 Sing A Song of London 22:45 Women of Mystery 23:15 London Royal 23:45 Jolly Good Show 16:30 I'm Sorry I'll Read That Again 17:00 Royal Newsdesk 17:15 Outlook 18:00 World News 18:05 Commentary 18:15 Omnibus 18:45 The World Today 19:00 World News 19:05 Meridian 19:40 Scotland This Week 19:45 Sports Round-up 20:00 Newsdesk 20:30 Nature Notebook 20:40 The Farming World 21:00 Outlook: News Summary 21:30 Stock Market Report 21:45 Look Ahead 21:45 That's That! 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Hassan welcomes accountants

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Monday received at the Royal Court president and members of the Arab Society of Certified Accountants (ASCA), which is currently holding a meeting in Amman.

Prince Hassan expressed his encouragement to and from admiration for the society's achievements.

Later Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obaidat received the ASCA's delegation, which was headed by Mr. Talal Abu Ghazaleh, who thanked the prime minister and the government for their consent on considering Amman as the ASCA headquarter.

Bank heads work out bilateral economic details

AMMAN (Petra) — Iraqi Central Bank Governor Hassan Al Najafi Sunday concluded a three day official visit to Jordan, during which he took part in discussions to work out the detailed provisions of a bilateral agreement on economic and commercial co-operation between Jordan and Iraq.

In a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Dr. Vohammad Said Al Nabulsi, the Governor of the Central Bank of Jordan, said the visit by the Iraqi governor to Jordan came in implementation of the agreement between the two countries which was concluded in April.

The agreement deals with the exportation of crude oil to Jordan in return for Jordanian commodities, services and goods, provided that the central banks in both Jordan and Iraq agree on opening accounts and drawing up the necessary banking arrangements.

The detailed provisions aim to promote trade and the exchange of banking facilities between the two countries, Dr. Nabulsi said.

Forest fire destroys 100 dunum land area

AMMAN (J.T.) — A fire which Sunday raged for six hours near the King Talal Dam burnt trees in an area of 100 dunums of land.

According to a civil defence spokesman, the fire, which resulted in no casualties, was caused by a small fire lit by a vacationer who wanted it to make a cup of tea.

After drinking the tea, the vacationer did not put out the fire properly which later flared up and spread to the neighbouring forest.

Fire engines from Jerash, Salt, Suweih, Baqa'a and Amman took part in extinguishing the fire, the spokesman said.

Hikmat returns from talks on transport in Baghdad

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Transport, Taher Hikmat Sunday concluded a four-day official visit to Iraq during which he attended meetings of the general assembly of the Jordanian-Iraqi Land Transport Company (JILT).

In a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, upon his arrival in Amman, Mr. Hikmat said the visit was aimed at signing the final record of the general assembly and holding talks with Iraqi officials in the field of transport on developing joint relations between the two countries in that field.

Mr. Hikmat also said that he discussed the scopes of co-operation and co-ordination in the field of transport with the first deputy premier of Iraq, Taha Yassin Ramadan.

Jordan's delegation to the meeting was composed of Dr. Abdullah Al Nsour, Mr. Munir Al Durra, Mr. Idd Al Fayez, who are all members of the JILT board of directors.

Phosphate company seals sales contract with Turks

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan Phosphates Mines Company (JPWC) has signed an agreement with a Turkish company, whereby the JPWC will export 50,000 tonnes of phosphates to Turkey during the current year, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, quoted the JPWC director-general, Wasef Azar, as saying.

The company, Petra added, is currently holding talks with another Turkish firm to sell it 50,000 tonnes of phosphates.

Earlier this year, the company contracted with a Turkish company to supply it with 225,000 tonnes of phosphates, Petra added.

Meanwhile, Mr. Azar Sunday held talks with a delegation representing a Japanese company on exporting phosphates to Japan which, in turn, will market it in some South-East Asian countries.

Dinner theatre returns to Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — Dinner theatre comes to Amman for the second time in a year with the production of William Douglas Home's "A Friend Indeed" at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel this week.

Following on the success of Noel Coward's "Hay Fever" at the same venue last autumn, this most engaging of comedies will be performed, after the audience has eaten dinner and sipped cocktails, nightly from May 22-26.

Centering on a long forgotten alliance which causes an upheaval in the domestic lives of two pillars of the diplomatic service, the play is set in the residence of the British minister at the Vatican.

The remarkable events that happen there during one summer week-end result in high comedy at its witliest and sprightliest and show the author's ability to maintain a consistently brilliant level of dialogue at its sparkling best.

As well as the medium, Amman also welcomes back Moira Lister who starred as Judith Bliss in "Hay Fever" and Derek Nimmo who produced the play.

Miss Lister is perhaps best known for her television appearances and starred in several comedy series especially written for her by Alan Melville, the most popular being "The Very Merry Widow".

She was awarded the Variety Club of Great Britain's Silver Heart Award for the Best Stage Actress of the Year for her performance in "Move Over Mrs. Markham" — a play which subsequently toured around the dinner theatre circuit.

Miss Lister is married to champagne magnate Le Vicomte d'Orthez and last year finished a



Derek Nimmo (right) and Geoffrey Palmer who star in the dinner theatre production of "A Friend Indeed" (J.T. file photo)

(12 month run with Patrick Cargill in "Key for Two", a play that was nominated as the best comedy of the year.

Derek Nimmo, who has produced many plays for dinner theatre, has just finished a very successful season at London's Shaftesbury Theatre in the smash hit comedy "See How They Run".

He is well-known to television viewers with such series as "All Gas and Gaiters", "Oh, Brother!", "Oh Father!", "The World of Wooster", "Life Begins at Forty" and currently "Third Time Lucky".

For 14 years he has delighted radio audiences throughout the world with his witty remarks in the long running panel game "Just a Minute".

Joining them this time round will be Geoffrey Palmer, who starred opposite Wendy Craig in "Butterflies" and in "The Last Song", Colette Gleeson, Jo Kendall, Julie Dawn Cole and Mark Cilleano.

The director of the play is one of the most successful writers currently in British Television, Jan Butler has written three series for Derek Nimmo. Two of "Life Begins at Forty" and one which is currently shown on British television, "Third Time Lucky".

Last year she had a great success with another new series entitled "That Beryl Marston".

Jan Butler has directed plays in most of the prestigious theatres around London, but is most well known for a number of West End productions. She had the unenviable task of directing Robert Morley in his own play, "Ghost on Tiptoe".

She directed Derek Nimmo in "Why not Stay for Breakfast", Patrick Cargill in "Two and Two Make Sex", and Peggy Mount and Bernard Cribbins in Ray Cooney and John Chapman's "There Goes the Bride".

مركزات الأمل



The conference on agricultural modernisation and its effects in Mediterranean countries draws to a close Monday on the third and final day of its meeting (Petra photo)

Agricultural modernisation forum aids discussion among Mediterranean states

AMMAN (J.T.) — A three-day seminar and workshop dealing with agricultural modernisation and its resulting social and economic impact concluded Monday at the University of Jordan Faculty of Agriculture.

The seminar, organised by the Mediterranean Research Co-operation Project (MERCOOP), in co-operation with the Faculty of Agriculture focused on the technical, political and labour aspects resulting from modern agricultural practices.

The seminar was attended by representatives and experts from research institutes and universities in Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria, Egypt, Turkey, Cyprus, Italy, West Germany, the West Bank and Jordan who presented case-studies of their own countries as well as outlining general trends affecting agriculture in developing countries.

Animated discussion was a main feature of the workshop, enabling delegates to exchange ideas and to compare their respective agricultural development and policies.

During the final session, participants discussed several important aspects relating to agriculture including: Agricultural production in favour of food security; the export of industrial crops; the preconditions and possible effects of agricultural modernisation; the positive and negative aspects of irrigation, and ways of improving living conditions for manpower in the rural areas as a means of reducing urban migration.

The outcome of the seminar and the recommendations made are expected to be published in the MERCOOP newsletter and to be made available to decision-makers interested in the results of social and economic research.

In an interview with the Jordan Times Mr. Gerhart Scholl, director of MERCOOP, said that the seminar was held in Jordan due to the rapid advances the country has made regarding agricultural modernisation.

He also mentioned that many climatic and geographical conditions in Jordan are similar to those of Mediterranean countries and that many of the issues discussed are relevant to all countries in the region.

Participants at the workshop will Tuesday tour the Jordan Valley to see the developments in the area and the farming practices employed.

Bucharest meeting seeks to establish joint projects

AMMAN (Petra) — President of the National Planning Council (PNC) Omar Abdullah Monday left for Romania at the head of a Jordanian delegation to a meeting of the joint Jordanian-Romanian committee.

During the meeting of the committee, which will take place in the Romanian capital, the parties will discuss the establishment of commercial centres in both Amman and Bucharest in addition to trade relations between the two countries and ways of bolstering them.

The committee will also discuss increasing the quantity of Jordanian phosphates exported to Romania, in addition to co-operation in the fields of oil prospecting and water wherein Jordan is seeking to learn from Romanian expertise.

The two parties will also explore the possibility of establishing bee farms and sheep-breeding study and establishing joint venture companies as well as the benefits to be gained from the free zones in the Kingdom and the new investment law.

Jordan's delegation to the meetings consists of the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism under-secretary, Mohammed Saleh Al Hourani, Director-General of the Natural Resources Authority (NRA) Youssef Al Nimri and the cultural attache in Bucharest.

Ministry rescinds scholarships after students violate agreement

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Education has recently decided to cancel scholarships granted previously to a number of students following violations by these students of the terms under which these scholarships were awarded.

According to Mr. Salameh Al Kharabshe, director of the ministry's scholarships department, students who have been found guilty of moral offences, who have been dismissed by the university for failing their courses or who have changed from their original course of study will be denied the right of continuing to benefit from scholarship grants.

Students, he said, normally receive allowances and from the ministry which also pays their tuition fees and other essential costs throughout the duration of the scholarship.

The ministry's special scholarship committee normally selects students with high grades and good conduct and sends them to continue their higher education in Jordanian universities or abroad, provided they come back at the end of a successful course to work for the ministry, Mr. Kharabshe said.

For the scholarship to continue, a student must attend classes regularly, do well in his course, refrain from violating the regulations of the university, and not change his course of study except with the prior approval of the ministry, Mr. Kharabshe explained.

If the student fails to honour the agreement to work for the ministry after graduation, he said, the ministry has the right to charge him the equivalent cost of the scholarship in accordance with the agreement.

Japanese singalong in Amman

Takako Nakayama Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Japanese Community Association held a singing festival here Sunday.

Singing along with tape-recordings of popular melodies has swept Japan over the past five or six years. This had also exhibited its force over the Japanese people living in Amman through the song festival, called Karaoke-Taikai, organised by the JCA.

During the last couple of years, many drinking places in Japan have come to acquire "audio-sets" and tape-recordings of popular music, and most importantly, a microphone.

The point is that none of the recorded music is accompanied by professional singing. Singing is a part reserved for the customers of the pub.

Anyone who wishes to sing selects a tape, usually there are dozens and has it played. Now, all that is needed is for the person to hold the microphone and to sing to his or her heart's content.

The trend towards such a style of singing has increased its importance so that many people karaoke has become, it not a "must" then a pastime worthy of serious practice.

Thus, audio-sets with microphones for rehearsing karaoke and a collection of "best karaoke numbers" have begun to sell so that people may practise their favourite songs at home during the weekends in order to give a more impressive show at the karaoke pub.

It may be interesting to ponder at the cause of this karaoke fad. Some people say that to sing is a human instinct, though a lesser one, and so is to perform in front of many other people.

As karaoke fulfils the two instincts at the same time, they say it is attractive to a good number of people.

There are others who say that karaoke found its place in a society in which a great deal of patience and obedience to one's seniors is demanded thus breeding frustration.

Karaoke, according to these people, is an appropriate means of getting rid of their everyday frustration.

Whatever the deep psychology, karaoke is supported by a large number of people, and those who practice hard frequently impress their audience by a display of professional singing.

Mr. Kobayashi, president of the JCA, told the Jordan Times that the Japanese people working in Jordan and their families, consisted of up to about 200 members altogether.

One of the association's major activities is the administration of Saturday school, in which Japanese children receive tuition in the Japanese language as well as some other subjects in accordance with the Japanese curriculum.

Activities such as a new year's party, sports day and the screening of Japanese films are also organised. In addition, the women members of the JCA get together for their own activities such as handicrafts.

Mr. Kobayashi added that the song festival was organised principally for the entertainment of those men who have left their families in Japan. In the event, prizes were offered to those who sang particularly well.

Detailed document submitted to WHO Jordan draws up health report on occupied lands

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan has submitted a detailed report about the health conditions in the occupied Arab territories, in addition to the one submitted by the United Nations fact-finding mission on health, which visited Jordan and the occupied Arab territories some time ago, Minister of Health Kamel Al Ajlouni said Sunday.

Dr. Ajlouni, who returned home Sunday evening from Geneva after heading Jordan's delegation to the annual meeting of the World Health Organisation (WHO), also said that delegations participating in the meetings condemned Israel's oppressive practices in the occupied Arab territories "which have negatively affected the health conditions there."

Dr. Ajlouni added that the executive bureau of the Arab Health Ministers held a separate meeting and asked Jordan to construct two health centres in the occupied territories with aid and finance from the Arab Health Ministers Council.

Speaking about the meetings of the WHO, Dr. Ajlouni said the meetings formed two major committees.

Jordan was elected chairman of the first committee, which is to tackle purely medical affairs.

The committee raised subjects with economic, political and medical dimensions, at the head of which came the question of breast-feeding.

In this regard, it has been agreed to preclude the marketing of

any alternative kinds of milk except those which concur with the special regulations.

Speaking about basic drugs, Dr. Ajlouni said the committee has approved a list of drugs comprising 200 kinds as basic drugs.

This was despite opposition from certain members from drug-producing countries who wanted the list to be longer, Dr. Ajlouni said.

Dr. Ajlouni also said that during the meeting he held talks with delegations from developed countries with a view to discussing the possibility of acquiring technical expertise for Jordan.

Jordan's delegation to the WHO meetings grouped Dr. Youssef Mustata Issa, director of administration at the Health Ministry, Dr. Mamoun Ma'abrah, chief of the chest diseases division and Dr. Hani Oweis, head of the hospitals division at the ministry.



Minister of Health Kamel Al Ajlouni is interviewed Sunday after his return here from a meeting of the World Health Organisation in Geneva (Petra photo)

Jerash camp kindergarten inaugurated

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Highness Princess Basma, the honorary president of the Arab Fund Society for Child Welfare, Monday inaugurated the new premises of the Jerash Refugee Camp kindergarten which was constructed by the society.

In his opening speech, the president of the society, Ahmad Al Is'awi welcomed Princess Basma and paid tribute to her contribution in supporting voluntary work in Jordan.

Mr. Is'awi then spoke about the future plans of the society which include the building of similar premises in Suf, Husn, and Baqa'a camps.

The cost of the new building in the Jerash camp, which will provide day care for 400 children, is JD 36,000.

Mr. Is'awi said there are a total of 1,000 children in the four refugee camps, who are being looked after by the society.

At the end of the celebration, the kindergarten's children performed songs and dabka and played musical instruments.

Neuro-surgeons talks end

AMMAN (Petra) — A two-day advanced neurosurgical sciences seminar concluded its meetings at the University of Jordan Monday.

Chairman of the seminar, which was organised by the European Neurosurgical Association (ENA) in co-operation with the Jordanian Neuro-Sciences Society and the University of Jordan, Dr. Walid Al Ma'ani said that at a joint meeting of ENA and the Jordanian Neuro-Sciences Society, it has been agreed that the next seminar will be held in Algeria in January 1986.

Dr. Ma'ani added that the European doctors participating in the seminar have expressed their readiness to receive Arab trainees on the training courses their associations hold.

They also voiced their preparedness to supply the Jordanian medical institutions with reference books and pamphlets on the latest scientific innovations.

Dr. Ma'ani also said that participants expressed their admiration for the high standard of medical services in Jordan and the comprehensive progress Jordan is witnessing.

Speaking about the conference, Dr. Sayyed Al Jundi, representative of the Arab Neuro-Sciences Federation at ENA, said that the federation was established in 1976 and held its first course in Cairo in 1978 with 76 Arab neurosurgeons from various Arab countries attending.

The aim of such a seminar, Dr. Al Jundi said, was to give the young neurosurgeons the opportunity to attend and take part in the discussions with specialised and experienced doctors, with a view to getting acquainted with the new developments in neurosurgery and to establish close personal relations with them to strengthen and embody the joint national goals.

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 Editorial and advertising offices: **Service Press Foundation**
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Rumsfeld in memory lane

WHILE White House Chief of Staff to President Gerald Ford and as U.S. secretary of defence in 1975 and 1976, Donald Rumsfeld developed and wrote a set of official rules for the benefit of administration officials and American politicians. One of these rules says: You cannot win unless you are on the ballot.

On the ballot Mr. Rumsfeld is not, so he has decided to quit. This is another U.S. special envoy for the Middle East who has gone down memory lane and nowhere else.

That Mr. Rumsfeld should take and quit his job without leaving any detectable impact on the peace process in the Middle East is not in itself surprising to us. Probably his appointment came a little too late, or a bit too early, for the man to be able to achieve anything substantial. And it is quite possible that there actually was not anything for him to do in the first place. Nevertheless, the problem with U.S. policies in this region has never been tied with a man or an idea; and it should not be read in Mr. Rumsfeld's resignation that something is about to change in Washington. The policy there would continue to be as it is, except in its pro-Israel bias of course.

What makes the news of yet another resignation by a presidential envoy news is not so much the event itself. Mr. Reagan has had several envoys and all things are the same. It is what the latest envoy said in his letter of resignation, however, that is worth stopping at and pondering. "The conflicts in the Middle East are deep seated," Mr. Rumsfeld wrote to his president. "While a continuation of our steady efforts is vital, you have rightly identified the growth of state-sponsored terrorism and the use of surrogates to mask accountability as profound threats to hopes for progress in the area," he said. "A broad public understanding of the nature and magnitude of these threats is necessary. Your efforts to make the world aware of and to develop effective policies for deterring such activities are important steps forward," the envoy continued.

But what he meant there is not exactly clear. Was Mr. Rumsfeld in effect saying that the Palestinian problem could be tackled only after the U.S. has completely routed terrorism sponsored by states such as Libya, Iran or even Syria? Or was he implying that the Arab-Israeli conflict would not be there if the Soviets did not want or were not involved in it. Or, alternatively, did the envoy mean to tell the president that his administration's pre-occupation with combating what it saw as Soviet and terrorist threats against the U.S. and the free world was too great for a man like Mr. Rumsfeld to really concentrate on the real issues; and that whoever was resigned to accepting the president's policies on these issues might as well resign his job?

Not exactly a classical case in American politics this Rumsfeld resignation. But it should tell us something. Perhaps it is another slide, or simply a new deterioration in America's handling of the Middle East. Perhaps it is just a grim reminder that all is not well in the overall search for peace.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Common Arab pain

FORTY FOUR months after the start of the Iran-Iraq war, the world has realised the tragedy and the destruction it has caused and the danger inherent in that war and its threat to world peace. The many victims which fell as a result of the continuation of the war and the economic losses which both sides stood to suffer over the past three years did not awaken the world's conscience. What did was the destruction of a number of oil tankers.

The attack on the tankers was strong enough to bring the Arab states to their senses and so they decided at the foreign ministers' meeting in Tunis to prepare for a summit conference and also to condemn Iranian attacks on the tankers.

Condemnation of Iranian aggression and even joint action against Iran should have come a long time ago in implementation of the joint Arab defence pact and in manifestation of solidarity with Iraq, because the Iranian enemy has designs against the whole Arab World rather than Iraq alone. On the other hand, the war in the Gulf made the world at large realise that Iran was bringing the whole area nearer towards a conflagration and its leaders must surely be taking further steps towards involving Gulf states so that the fire will engulf everyone.

Following the disgraceful defeats in the battlefield it is not surprising for Iran to raise the slogan of "and after me the deluge". The chance is with the Arabs now to help Iraq win a decisive victory and put an end to a long period of suffering for the people of the Gulf region.

Al Dustour: Just a means

WE WELCOME a decision by Arab foreign ministers to hold an Arab summit in November. The ministers have worked hard over the past months to arrive at this decision, which revives the Arab masses' hopes and self-confidence in the future. But this welcome, coupled with just wishful thinking can do nothing to fulfil the Arab masses' hopes and aspirations. The summit in itself is no goal, but rather a means for tackling Arab issues and reaching a formula to solve problems.

For the summit to succeed, Arab states should work in harmony and co-operation to create a suitable atmosphere conducive to its success, and this is a basic requirement. If the Arab countries wish to overcome their present pitiable state of affairs, they should pave the way for their leaders to reach very reasonable results. There should be concerted efforts for ending side differences between Syria and Iraq, Syria and Jordan, Tunisia and Libya and between Libya and the PLO.

Unless such efforts succeed, the coming summit is bound to fail.

Sawt Al Shaab: Positive outcome

THE EMERGENCY meeting of the Arab foreign ministers in Tunis has resulted in a good step towards restoring Arab solidarity and paving the way for a successful Arab summit meeting.

The ministers' agreement to hold the 13th Arab summit in November is by itself a success, achieved despite the contradictions which have been plaguing the Arab states and because of the dangers and threats confronting the Arab Nation at present. The Arab leaders realise that the escalating Zionist onslaught and the continued Iran-Iraq war require decisive resolutions that can only come from a summit meeting, which also should chart a well-planned programme for restoring genuine Arab solidarity. This is essential for the Arabs if they want to stop the downward slide to disaster.

Despite the heated debate at the ministers' meeting in Tunis, the Arab states were finally able to agree on something constructive, and on means for restoring their countries' solidarity, thus offering elements of success for the coming summit.

Numeiri's clampdown may deepen rift

By Fouad Gawhari

Reuter

KHARTOUM — Emergency measures imposed by President Jaafar Numeiri are seen by political analysts here as a response to a host of problems, among them rebellion in the South, a crippled economy and deep-rooted corruption.

Curfew can be imposed at any time in Africa's largest country under the April 29 decrees. Demonstrations and strikes are outlawed. The police and army are empowered to arrest on suspicion and to search without warrant.

The crackdown is unprecedented in Sudan's 28 years of independence from British rule. It was imposed as a tide of problems seemed to threaten the popular base of President Numeiri, the 54-year-old soldier-president,

who took over in a 1969 bloodless coup and has survived a string of plots to oust him.

Diplomats said the most urgent challenge now is growing discontent among students and professional groups, including doctors, professors, accountants and civil servants who have been staging strikes for better pay and conditions.

"While Numeiri gives lavish salaries and privileges to the army, we get peanuts and bear the brunt of the country's economic ills," said a civil servant who, like others, did not want to be named.

"All emergencies in the world will not help Numeiri unless he solves the masses' daily problems," one university student said.

Sudan is rated among the world's poorest nations with an economy largely dependent on

cotton and reeling under a foreign debt of \$7.5 billion. Inflation is estimated by some Khartoum businessmen at 40 per cent.

Essentials like sugar, petrol and cooking gas are scarce. Long queues form every day at shops and gas stations.

Shortages are blamed by many Sudanese on hoarders, black marketeers and corrupt officials acting as middlemen for kickbacks running into millions of dollars.

One Sudanese intellectual said: "The infrastructure is facing the prospect of collapse because of lack of funds, corruption and inefficiency..."

Mr. Numeiri admitted these ills and coupled his emergency declaration with a purge.

He fired several senior officials including the interior, foreign, trade and labour ministers and the secretary-general of the Sudan

Socialist Union, Badr Eddin Soliman, said to be a critic of Mr. Numeiri's decision to place Sudan under strict Islamic law last year.

Those dismissed also included the powerful presidential affairs minister, Bahaa Eddin Idriss, known to Sudanese as Mr. Numeiri's closest aide.

The Numeiri clampdown was also aimed against opposition to Islamic law. Such opponents as the leader of the Muslim Ansar sect, Sadek Al Mahdi, called it "a political gimmick" to absorb discontent in the mainly Muslim North.

Mr. Numeiri has put Mahdi and other critics in jail.

Diplomats say the Islamic Law is bitterly opposed by southern Sudanese, mostly Christians of pagan animists, where a smouldering rebellion flared last year. This led Mr. Numeiri and other

officials to say the Islamic law applied only to Muslims, but suspicion of northern intentions remained high in the South, the diplomats said.

They said they believed, Mr. Numeiri's declaration of an emergency reflected a feeling that his authority was being flouted by growing dissent inside Sudan.

"It came as a complete surprise and was characteristic of Mr. Numeiri's strike-first tactics," one analyst said.

Diplomats predict further swoops following more than 1,700 arrests on charges ranging from hoarding to violating the Islamic law. Special tribunals will try such cases.

The rebel flare-up in the South ended a truce proclaimed in 1972 when the area won autonomy after 17 years of bloody secessionist strife that took a million

lives. The rebels now adopt hit-and-run tactics in attacks on key economic projects related to ambitious development programmes in oil and irrigation.

A spokesman for the U.S. Chevron Oil Company said it was not prepared to resume suspended southern Sudanese operations where satisfactory security was not guaranteed. "The safety of our personnel comes first," he said.

A British sub-contractor working with the French Total Oil Company was recently abducted and found killed.

"The rebellion in the South is different from previous moves. It is more organised and stronger," one diplomat said, adding that the rebels were certain to intensify their activities following the rainy season this month and next.

Arabs campaign for Berkeley to support reducing aid to Israel

By Tom Tugend

WHEN the voters of Berkeley, the home of the University of California, go to the polls on June 5, they will cast their ballots on an initiative calling on the United States government "to reduce aid to Israel by an amount equal... to what Israel spends annually on its settlements in the occupied territories of the West Bank, Gaza Strip and Golan Heights."

Sponsor of the initiative is a group calling itself Taxpayers for Peace in the Middle East (TAPME), which over the past six months collected the necessary 5,000 valid signatures on the streets of Berkeley to put the measure before the city's 67,000 registered voters. TAPME's supporting organisations list themselves as the American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee, the committee for Academic Freedom in the Israel Occupied Territories, and the International Jewish Peace Union.

Under the rules of the municipal charter, the Berkeley City Council was obliged to give its pro-forma approval to the initiative, designating it officially as "Measure E" on the ballot. More significantly, however, the city council, at the same meeting, rejected a proposed ballot measure calling for continued aid to Israel and praising its democratic ideals, willingness to negotiate peace and strategic importance to the United States.

The pro-Israel proposal failed by a 5-to-4 vote when five council members abstained, in effect vot-

ing "no."

There is little doubt that Arab groups and sympathisers selected Berkeley as the test site for the initiative because of the makeup of the city's electorate and its affinity for anti-establishment causes.

"Unlike other places in the U.S., where the political dialogue is between liberals and conservatives, Berkeley's dialogue occurs between liberals and radicals," comments Berkeley historian Fred Rosenbaum.

"Even though the issues and methods of the activities have changed since the 1960s, I would guess that as much as 25 per cent of Berkeley's population today still could be called 'radical'."

Rosenbaum says. "In that sense, they are often anti-Zionist, seeing

Israel as an outpost of American imperialism."

Berkeley's distinctiveness is reflected in its Jewish community. "Like other communities, less than half of the Jewish population affiliates with a synagogue," according to Rosenbaum. "But a majority also avoids affiliation with any Jewish organisation."

"Many are distrustful of the organised Jewish community," he adds. "In part, they represent the social revolution. They feel that the community does not respond to their needs, and a significant portion can be termed 'anti-Zionist.'"

Among Jewish anti-Zionists actively promoting the initiative are leaders of the hitherto obscure International Jewish Peace Union. They have been joined by

individual members of the New Jewish Agenda, an organisation espousing leftist social and political causes.

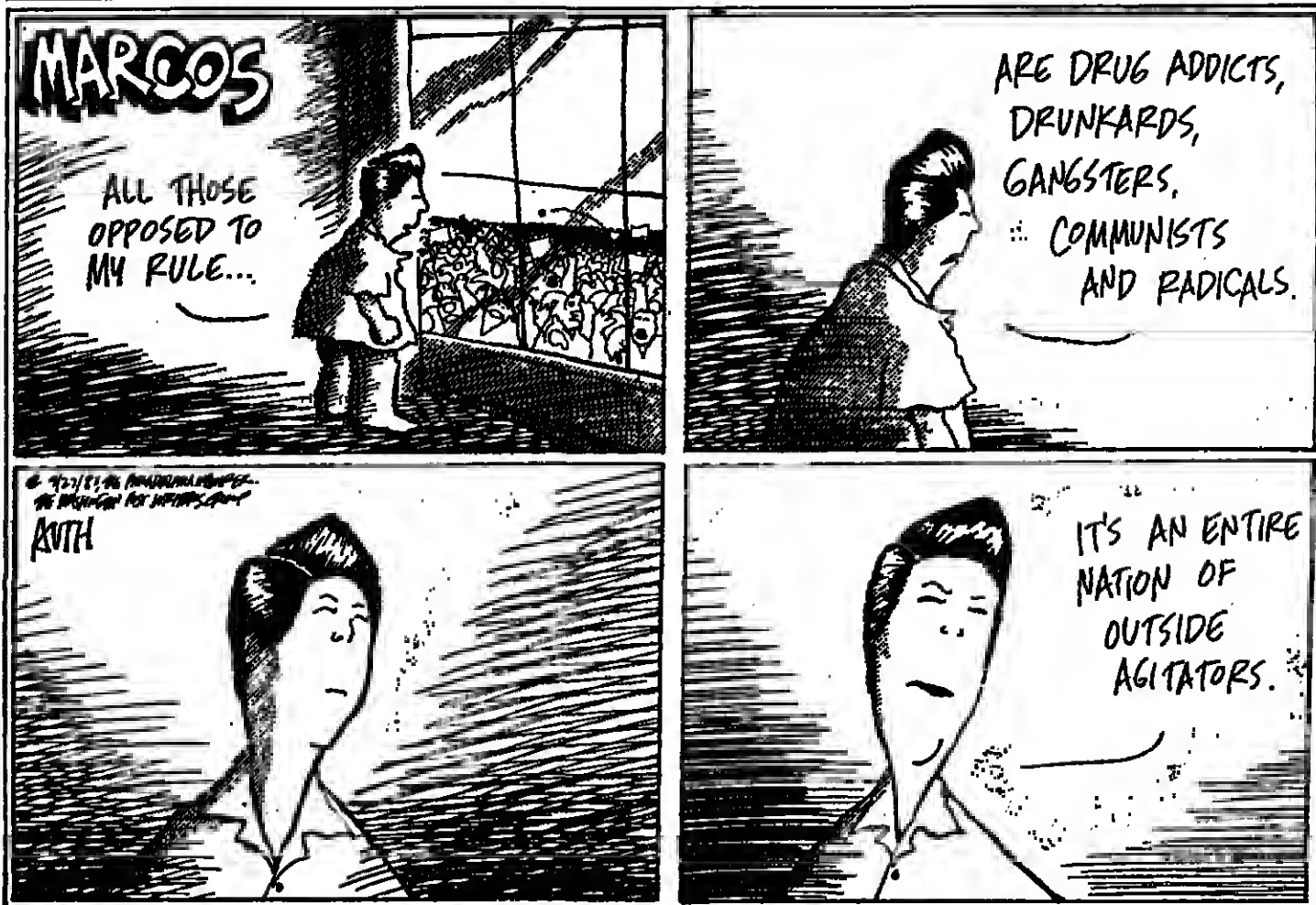
The local chapter and national leadership of the New Jewish Agenda has not taken a stand on the issue. However, the organisation's national co-director, Jeffrey Dekro, has charged that Arab groups are using Berkeley as a test site for a possible country-wide campaign to cut aid to Israel and he predicted that the measure would be rejected by the Berkeley voters.

To translate the prediction into reality, most of Berkeley's Jews, who make up 10-15 per cent of the city's electorate, are supporting an organised opposition drive. They are being spurred on by the Northern California Jewish Bulletin,

which has been covering the issue closely and effectively.

A "No on (Measure) E" headquarters has been established, from which volunteers armed with arguments and literature are fanning out and knocking on voters' doors. The campaign is being led by Edwin Epstein, a professor at the University of California, and Paul Maier, president of the Berkeley Democratic Club, who say that they will seek a broad base of support "among the general interfaith community, unions, and such other constituencies as the elderly and feminists."

Prof. Epstein attacked Measure E as "neither an appropriate ballot measure nor conducive to peace. It distorts real issues, isolating Israel and casting it in the role of villain."



Printers challenge editors over bias

By Alexander Maxey

Reuter

LONDON — Britain's print unions believe that some of the country's national newspapers have become so outrageously biased that they must intervene sometimes to redress the balance.

As a result The Sun, Britain's biggest-selling newspaper, appeared last Tuesday with its front page planked out. On the same day The Daily Express was obliged to give up its centre page spread to a trade union's right of reply.

The issue demonstrates that in Fleet Street these days, an editor no longer necessarily has the last word.

Only two of Britain's nine national papers are left-of-centre while at least three out of five mass-selling tabloids and one of four heavy-weighters are aggressive supporters of Conservative Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

Britain's popular newspapers have often pushed their proprietors' views, such as the late Lord Beaverbrook's crusade for empire free trade in the 1930s and 40s.

Today they are still much occupied with a cut-throat battle for circulation and prefer to offer their readers light entertainment rather than columns of news. Political stories are often angled to support a particular line.

Britain's coalminers' strike over pit closures, now in its 11th week, has provided the background for the latest incidents of printers trying to become arbiters of fair play, but the whole issue has provoked a major controversy over press freedom.

For weeks the Daily Express infuriated Fleet Street's two big print unions with stories about

militant miners' leader Arthur Scargill under such headlines as "Scargill's Red Army" and "Scargill and the fascists of the left".

A week ago the paper splashed across its front and centre pages a biting attack on Mr. Scargill saying: "We have made no progress... I have tried... this is the century's most senseless dispute."

When Express Editor Sir Larry Lamb refused to grant a right of reply of equal prominence, members of one print union, Sogat 82, threatened industrial action.

Lord Matthews, chairman of Express newspapers, then overruled his editor and agreed to a reply which, after five days of haggling, filled the paper's centre spread on Tuesday.

The Sun ran into trouble when print leaders balked at printing a picture of Mr. Scargill giving what resembled a Nazi salute at a rally with the headline: "Mine fueler".

In the end the paper's 4.2 million readers saw neither headline nor photograph, just a front-page statement that Sun printers refused to handle either. The unions said it was the management which withdrew the page rather than accede to union demands for a balancing article.

Most other papers used the picture prominently, a move described by the opposition Labour Party as "one of the most scandalous, vicious and inexcusable acts of malice ever".

In two other episodes this year, printers at the Sunday Times and the Express demanded and got space for Mr. Scargill to reply to attacks on him.

Right-wing commentator Woodrow Wyatt wrote in the Times: "This is workers' control. It is not press freedom."

He said printers, made powerful by closed shop agreements which oblige recruits to join unions, were castrating the press by forcing editors more and more frequently to choose between giving in or losing a night's edition.

The unions, Sogat and the National Graphical Association, are open about their intention: If a partisan press denies a reply to those it attacks, the printers will enforce that right.

"Press freedom is not a licence to print what you like when you like without paying regard to the person you are slurring," said Sogat leader Bill Keys.

The organising force in the fight against bias is a group set up in 1979, the Campaign for Press and Broadcasting Freedom (CPBF), to which all the major media unions are affiliated.

It is staffed by members of the media unions who work among printers, newsmen and broadcasters to encourage them to pressure editors to grant equal time or space to victims of bias. The group says it does not want to censor anything, merely ensure that the target has the right of reply.

Unlike some American newspapers, no British paper has an in-house ombudsman and only the watchdog Press Council provides non-binding ethical guidance. When the Press Council rules on a complaint, which any member of the public may submit, newspapers are honour-bound to reprint the ruling in full.

That usually means that a critical ruling appears in a dense block of grey type at the bottom of an inside page.

The most persistent critic of media bias is radical leftist member of parliament Tony Benn, a former

Labour cabinet minister. Mr. Benn, routinely depicted in the Conservative press as the leader of the "loony left," says Fleet Street ceaselessly distorts the socialist case and trivialises issues.

Journalists in Britain "are bought and sold like cattle, treated like serfs," he says. "We have a press that reflects the interests of its proprietors."

Mike Power, chairman of the CPBF, says: "Thatcher knights editors and gives proprietors seats in the House of Lords. They are bought and paid for by this government."

For editors, the pressure from below coincides with some interference from above. Stuck in the middle, they are anxious to preserve their traditional freedom to print what they like.

Lord Matthews, in a rare proprietor-union alliance against an editor, was so open in overruling Sir Larry Lamb last week that the Express editor threatened to resign.

In another case, Roland "Tiny" Rowland, owner of the Observer Sunday paper, repeatedly denounced his editor, Donald Treflford, last month over Mr. Treflford's reporting of alleged atrocities in Zimbabwe, with which Mr. Rowland's Lohm company has close commercial links. They later reached a reconciliation.

The printers' campaign, however, is viewed by editors and owners alike as a dangerous development.

Loft Marsh, chairman of the Newspaper Publishers Association, said: "We really are on the road to a totalitarian society if groups of unions decide that they can just flout the law, flout agreements on purely political grounds."

Bolivians protest new austerity measures

By Juan Javier Zeballos

LA PAZ — A wave of union protests against recent economic austerity measures is confronting Bolivia's debt-plagued government with a fresh crisis.

Since taking over from the military 19 months ago, left-wing President Hernan Siles Zuazo has seen cracks in his backing from workers and rumblings from the military, which ruled for two decades before he took office.

Disillusioned union leaders, who had hoped a left-wing government would raise the living standards of workers, have staged mass strikes against a series of economic measures which they claim have eroded their purchasing power.

Attempts to deal with the country's catastrophic economic situation have been met by opposition accusations that Mr. Siles Zuazo is playing into the hands of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the United States government and the business class.

Labour protests, which provoked an announcement this week by Finance Minister Flavio Machicado that he would resign, have sparked fears a worried military might stage a coup. Bolivia has had more than one coup a year on average in its 159-year history.

On Thursday the armed forces expressed concern at the state of the country, saying they would not hesitate if they had to defend public peace and national security.

Coup rumours were officially denied. Mr. Siles Zuazo himself said on television the same day that labour anarchy must stop.

Troubles began when last November's austerity package, which devalued the peso by 60 per cent and increased basic food and fuel prices, sparked sectoral and general strikes.

But the biggest wave of protests began last month when an austerity package devalued the peso by 75 per cent and raised prices by up to 600 per cent. The Confederation of Workers (COB) called a 72-hour strike bringing Bolivia to a standstill.

This was followed by more demonstrations and another three-day general strike, while the cob, headed by veteran labour leader Juan Lechin, tried to have the package revoked and the cob's own economic plan implemented.

A month-old strike by central bank workers attempting to block the austerity plan has curtailed the operations of private banks, threatening the main productive sectors with bankruptcy, according to Trade and Industry Minister Freddy Justiniano.

So far the government has showed no signs of backing down, saying the measures were necessary if the IMF was to provide funds to service Bolivia's \$4.4 billion foreign debt.

The cob wants debt repayments deferred until the economy recovers and urges the government to sell off the country's gold reserves to invest in reactivation.

Bolivia's economy is in shreds with negligible foreign reserves and earnings hit by falling pro-



Hernan Siles Zuazo

duction and poor world prices for its all-important mineral exports.

With no sign of recovery in the shattered economy and continuing government-labour disputes, a retired general this month called on the armed forces to "save the homeland".

Chiefs of the armed forces, which have been purged of several high-ranking officers involved in previous military governments, have repeatedly reaffirmed their commitment to democracy.

However, tension was illustrated late last month when an army general demanded that a shipment of arms smuggled into Bolivia be handed over to the armed forces.

The interior ministry said the arms were destined to police units for use in their fight against drug traffickers but the open army-government dispute led to rumours of a military rebellion sweeping the country.

Right-wing groups have claimed the government meant the weapons for left-wing groups to fight any military attempt to seize power. The Left has said rightist paramilitary groups active under previous military rules have not been disbanded.

The spectre of military intervention has led some union leaders to call for a cautious approach in their dealings with the government.

At a recent meeting of the militant miners' union to discuss how to react to the austerity package, some speakers said an all-out industrial strike would only create the conditions for a right-wing coup.

But the cob is determined to force the government to withdraw the austerity programme which the groups says has pushed the cost of living up by 400 per cent overnight.

Miners last week laid out blankets in the lobby of the presidential palace and threatened to go on a hunger strike, only leaving after being promised better food supplies.

Meanwhile, cob leaders this week began a snowballing hunger strike, saying 2,000 more unionists would be fasting by May 28 if the government did not revoke its austerity measures.

Mr. Siles Zuazo yielded to a similar strike earlier this year, granting a 57 per cent increase of the minimum wage. However, the government said on Thursday that striking bank workers failing to return to work would lose their jobs and be replaced.

Diary

MINISTERS ARE apparently unhappy about Jordanian newspaper coverage of changes in top official position in the government. They complain that the three Arabic dailies compete to publish news items of changes that are either unfounded or too premature — a process that the ministers think could have negative implications on their work and on their relations with their subordinates and the other people normally concerned with these matters. Journalists, on the other hand, justify their coverage of likely changes in the government by contending that Jordanians across the board enjoy nothing more than reading such items in the newspaper, as an under-secretary sacked or a department head moved, and that it is their (the journalists') duty to furnish the readers with whatever news they have. A prominent editor told a group of his colleagues the other day, "If the government is really that concerned about the issue, why do senior officials leak news of changes to us? What do they expect us to do with 'scoops'? Sleep on them!"

INCIDENTALLY, A senior official at an important ministry recently leaked the news that his appointment to succeed the under-secretary (who had just quit his job) was all but sealed. A newspaper believed him and printed a news item saying the man's selection was imminent. When his minister was asked to comment on the story on the second day, he said: "The senior official (in question) would not only not be my undersecretary; he will be lucky to survive the new changes in the ministry I am going to introduce."

THE DIRECTOR of the Department of Budget, Mr. Sami Gammoh, is retiring from government service to work in the private sector as director of a Jordanian insurance company. A news item in the local press last week said the council of ministers had agreed to Mr. Gammoh's retirement as of June 1. The retiring official, who is a former diplomat, has also been the chairman of the board of Sawt Al Shaab newspaper, which is 51 per cent government-owned. No reasons were given for the change.

THE SECOND man in the U.S. embassy in Amman, Edward Djerejian, is ending his tour of duty this summer. Not many people know what he will be doing next, but his most likely destination from here is Washington, it seems. The charge d'affaires and Mrs. Djerejian have been in Jordan for the past three years.

YET MORE moves in Amman's diplomatic corps. Armine Kessler, first secretary at the West German embassy in charge of press and cultural affairs, is going to Bonn for an unspecified period of time after which he hopes to be posted back in the Arab World. Dr. Kessler's departure, after a three-year tour of duty in Jordan, may not mark the end of a series of changes at the FRG embassy here, as unconfirmed reports suggest that Mr. Hermann Munz, the ambassador, may also leave Amman before the end of this year. A number of German diplomats changed positions to and from Amman in recent months.

THE INDIAN ambassador is finally back in Amman after a lengthy stay at home. Since last March, Mr. Pyare Lal Santoshi had had to make two trips to India. The first was routine; the second not so routine. No sooner had he ended his first trip and returned here than he was called back to attend his wife's wedding — this time in a different part of the homeland. There is a saying in India which states approximately that an Indian's brother-in-law should have reverend next to God. Apparently, the ambassador could not but be faithful to the saying and go back to India for the second time.

Knell of extinction rings for tiny Florida sparrow

By Peter B. Gallagher

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. — The protective custody of a \$60,000 cage on an obscure island in Walt Disney World is no fantasyland for the most endangered bird on Earth. Tortured and ignored by man until it was too late, exiled forever from their salt marsh homeland, the last four dusky seaside sparrows flit about in desperate luxury, waiting for the end to come. They are all males, seven-to-ten years old, brought in from the wild in 1979 and 1980. No female has been seen since 1975. The one male that evaded capture was last seen on July 23, 1980. Sometime within the next few years, barring a miracle, the dusky seaside sparrow (*Ammodramus maritimus nigrescens*) will be the first vertebrate creature to suffer extinction since the Endangered Species Act was passed in 1973.

Natural home destroyed

Over \$5 million has been spent since 1970 trying to save the tiny sparrow. Yet its small, isolated habitats were poisoned, flooded, burned and built upon so severely that the sparrow could no longer survive in freedom. Last October, after two decades of feuding, scientists and government wildlife officials threw in the towel and permitted Walt Disney World to take the final progeny off the public payroll.

There, surrounded by other endangered species on little-publicized Discovery Island, Disney biologists will attempt to breed the four males with similar seaside sparrows — a genetic "backcrossing" experiment that, if successful, could eventually produce a hybrid sparrow with over 98 per cent of the dusky's genes and characteristics.

"I'm well aware of the risk involved," says Charles Cook, director of Discovery Island, a habitation of rare animals and birds from around the world. The island annually attracts less than one per cent of all Disney visitors.

"You get people thinking and talking about the dusky and you might not save these last few but you might save something else," says Cook.

Now in seclusion

The last four males, housed under heavy security, will not be displayed to the public. Instead, Scott's seaside sparrows and other close relatives of the dusky will take part in what Cook calls an "interpretative display."

A diorama will explain the bird's history, habits, and habitat, as well as the reasons for its impending extinction — an especially dramatic event considering that the mere presence of Disney World, less than an hour from the dusky's final range, had a direct effect on the sparrow's destruction.

The little bird's range has always been limited to the St. Johns River floodplain west of Titusville and the tidal marshes of North Merritt Island, in Brevard County. Before man intruded, thousands of the timorous sparrows inhabited the vast short-grass savannahs of both areas.

It is doubtful more than a few Floridians have ever seen a dusky seaside sparrow. Weighing less than an ounce, it is a black and white canary-sized bird which

spent most of its time darting about the ground rather than treecrops. It is the most distinctive of all the seaside sparrows that range the vanishing coastal salt marshes from New England to Mexico.

Undoubtedly, the sparrow's inconspicuous place in the animal kingdom hierarchy — far below the flamboyant eagles and whooping cranes — would later contribute to its downfall. "The rule of thumb is: If it weighs less than a pound and is smaller than a breadbox, nobody cares," is the candid observation of Bill Leenhouts of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Assaulted by DDT

The dusky's troubles began immediately after World War II when the Brevard County Mosquito Control District tried to rid Merritt Island of the salt marsh mosquito — a serious obstacle to the growth that was expected in this virgin area. Massive spraying of DDT and other pesticides contributed to a 75 per cent drop in dusky numbers between 1946 and 1962.

When the National Aeronautics and Space Administration acquired the area in 1962, engineers flooded as much of it as possible so the mud-breeding mosquitoes would have no place to lay their eggs.

It worked. It also destroyed the marsh. By 1968, only 70 pairs of dusks remained on Merritt Island, and, while by then, ironically, was a Fish and Wildlife refuge. Meanwhile, University of Wisconsin graduate student Brian Sharp found nearly 900 pairs of dusks on the St. Johns marsh — an area which had not been explored by



One of the last four dusky seaside sparrows in the world lives out his days in a habitat created for him and his three kin on an island in Walt Disney World.

No female of the apparently doomed species has been seen for almost a decade (N. Geographic photo)

ornithologists since Charles Maynard first discovered the dusky there a century before.

But this was 1969 — not a good environmental year in this part of the globe. The space programme was at its peak; man would walk on the moon by summer. Brevard's population had grown 800 per cent since NASA moved in. And, a few miles inland, construction had begun on the world's largest family entertainment complex — Walt Disney World.

To facilitate an expected overload of traffic and to provide a safer, more direct route from Brevard beaches to Disney World, the state built the controversial Bee Line Expressway — which split into a Y right in the middle of the most populous dusky habitat.

The Endangered Species Act, among a host of environmental laws passed since 1969, would make it impossible to build that highway today. "One day there was a marsh," says Florida Audubon ornithologist Herb Kale, who led a losing battle against the Bee Line, "and the next there was a highway."

Ranchers started fires

The wind-down of the space programme and gas shortages kept the Bee Line a veritable "ghost road" for 10 years. Out-of-control forest fires, started by nearby ranchers who wished to clear their lands for grazing, swept over the dusky's areas many times. By spring, 1979, there were 13 males left on the St. Johns marsh, none at all on Merritt Island.

Fish and Wildlife then ordered the capture of all dusky seaside sparrows. No females were found. Five males were brought to Santa Fe Community College Teaching Zoo in Gainesville. There scientists and officials continued their fighting, this time over the philosophical right to "crossbreed" the birds. The argument prevented the experiment for two crucial mating seasons.

"I know it is impossible to save everything. But why commit aggravated assault on nature?" asks Jim Ellis, who directs the nation's only collegiate teaching zoo. "People come in and say, 'What a waste of money on a few lousy sparrows.' But, unfortunately,

most people don't see the future. "What are we going to do about the St. Johns River? The dusky is at the headwaters there. The dusky is gone. You have fish kills out there. The manatee is in trouble. How many species does it take before you realise that the whole bloody river may be in trouble?"

Who hears it fall?

Fish and Wildlife finally agreed to permit crossbreeding — it taxpayers were spared the considerable cost. Nudged by Florida Audubon, Disney officials agreed to take on the \$100,000 annual cost of maintaining and breeding the final dusks.

It was all done secretly, without public announcement. But the proper message is there, says Cook: "It's like a tree that falls in the woods. If no one hears it, who knows it fell? The dusky will fall in the woods and it will be passing news. That's not right. We want people to see and hear about this. Extinction is forever. And here we are tasing it." — National Geographic feature.

Donald Duck celebrates his 50th birthday in style

By Ronald Clarke

LOS ANGELES — A fast-talking superstar of 170 films, who has a quick temper, bares his rear end to the world and has a middle name of Fauntleroy, is about to plant his webbed feet into cement in a giant birthday celebration.

He is the boisterous, trouble-plagued Donald Duck, who has survived the antics of his nephews Huey, Dewey and Louie to reach the age of 50.

Donald, in his sailor suit that some critics have said leaves more parts exposed than it covers, began an early summer of celebrations Monday.

He will plant his feet in cement outside Mann's Chinese theatre to join stars of the past and present, such as Clark Gable, Betty Grable, and Judy Garland, who have

left their marks in Hollywood.

A chartered airliner, "Duck One," bearing a 16-foot (five metre) painting of Donald on its fuselage, will later fly Donald and his "Voice", 79-year-old Clarence "DUCKY" Nash, to 13 cities for a round of birthday parties that will end in New York on June 8.

On Saturday, June 9 — Donald's birthday — the duck will head — a convoy of cars from El Toro military base, in southern California, to nearby Anaheim for a ticker-tape parade in the giant Disneyland Amusement Centre.

It will be a fitting tribute to Donald — Disney Studios never admits there could be a human lurking inside him — who has sometimes been in the shadow of the more dignified Mickey Mouse. Mickey, the favourite of the late

Walt Disney, may have been given the credit for building Disney Studios, but Donald helped pay the expenses and keep hundreds of people employed.

At a time when there have been reports of attempts to takeover Disney Studios, the 128 Donald Duck cartoons and his 42 other films still keep the studio cash register ringing.

Never time to rest on his laurels, Donald is ignoring age to work on his latest film, an animated feature based on the life of Christopher Columbus, played by Mickey's crew.

It was on June 9, 1934, that Donald was "born" in Walt Disney's "The Wise Little Hen."

Donald's rages and his utter incompetence soon had cinema audiences roaring. In 1937, Don-

ald wooed a peppery seniorita named Donna. Donna evolved into Daisy Duck, whom Donald has been chasing ever since.

In 1938, his three nephews entered his life and also became film hits.

But always behind Donald has been Nash, who still provides the duck with his quack.

Nash was driving a pony cart round Los Angeles schools, performing bird and animal imitations as an advertising stunt for a milk company before he went to work for Disney Studios.

In the evenings, he performed at local theatres, and one of his most popular pieces was of a frightened little girl reciting, in the voice of a goat, "Mary Had a Little Lamb."

Hearing Disney was searching for people who could imitate ani-

mals, Nash performed his entire repertoire at Disney Studios. When he got to his girl-goat voice, Disney said: "That's our talking duck."

Recalling the incident, Nash said when he told his wife of his new job, she replied: "That's great, but it probably won't last." That was 50 years ago," added Nash, a quiet, little man who seems to suddenly come to life when he breaks into his Donald voice.

"I went to a sneak preview of 'The Wise Little Hen,' wondering just what would be the reaction of the audience to Donald and his voice," Nash said.

"The people were soon laughing and audiences' reaction to Donald in his second film, 'Orphan's Benefit,' which starred Mickey Mouse, was even louder."

Nash said.

Nash and his wife, Margie, have two daughters, eight grandchildren and five great grandchildren — apart from Donald — and Nash retired as a Disney employee 13 years ago.

But he still makes personal appearances and prizes Donald's voice. "I'm busier now than when I was under contract," Nash said. A Disney animator, Frank Thomas, said Donald's success was ensured when Nash opened his mouth. "To draw cartoon characters animators need a voice that suggests attitudes and expressions," Thomas said.

"We had many fine actors come and do voices, but I couldn't visualise anything," Thomas said. "Clarence, with his crazy quack — you really believed it," Thomas declared.

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FIFA celebrates 80th anniversary

Injury-hit West Germany seeks revenge against Italy

ZURICH (R) — West Germany, plagued by injury, seek revenge for their 1982 World Soccer Cup final defeat by Italy when the two countries meet in a friendly here Tuesday.

The game, which is being staged as part of the International Football Federation's (FIFA) 80th anniversary celebrations, is seen as an important test for the Germans three weeks before the start of the European Championships in France.

But they will be without key midfielder Bernd Schuster who told trainer Jupp Derwall Sunday that he had fractured a foot playing for Barcelona and would be unable to help West Germany in defence of their European title.

For Derwall, who has come under much criticism for his team's disjointed performances, the news could not have come at a worse time.

"That is all we needed, I have no replacement for Schuster. He is dogged by bad luck," he said. Meanwhile the Italians have

arrived in Zurich professing little interest in reliving the glory of two years' ago when they beat West Germany 3-1 in the World Cup final in Madrid.

"For me personally this is just a turnout for FIFA's 80th jubilee. I don't really need a World Cup replay," captain Marco Tardelli said. Missing from the match will be Paolo Rossi, who scored in the Madrid final, and defender Antonio Cabrini who was injured in last week's European Cup winners' Cup final triumph by Juventus against Porto.

Italy's soccer successes these days come from the clubs rather than the national team, with Juventus having pocketed one trophy and Roma hoping to beat Liverpool in the European Cup final in Rome next week.

The national side has slumped

miserably since 1982 and has not even qualified for the European Championship finals.

Only five of the winning World Cup team are expected to take the field Tuesday — Gaetano Scirea, Giuseppe Bergomi, Tardelli, Bruno Conti and Alessandro Altobelli.

The West Germans' midfield problems have not been helped by the refusal of Internazionale's Hansi Mueller to consider a comeback which means top striker Karl-Heinz Rummenigge will have to play deeper.

Australians to play 8 four-day matches

LONDON (R) — The Australian cricketers are to play eight four-day matches against county sides on their England tour next year.

The Australians will play 29 matches, including six tests and three one-day internationals, beginning with the traditional curtain-raiser against Lancashire at Arundel on May 5 and ending with the sixth test at the Oval on August 29.

The Australians have been trying for some time to persuade the Test and County Cricket Board to introduce four-day matches, which are in line with their domestic Sheffield Shield competition.

Next season's experiment will be watched closely as there is a growing lobby, including England captain Bob Willis, for the county championship.

Socrates agrees to join Fiorentina

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Ace Brazilian striker Socrates, due to join Italian First Division club Fiorentina in July, says the move will mark the end of his club career in Brazil.

He told Reuters Sunday he had signed a letter of intent to join the Italian club in July and would play his last game in Brazil on June 10.

"I will not play for Brazil in the internationals against England, Uruguay and Argentina in June," Socrates said. "My farewell from the Brazilian fans will be a friendly match in Juazeiro do Norte (Northeast Brazil)."

Speaking after his team, Corinthians, were eliminated from the Brazilian League championship in a scoreless draw with Fluminense, he said his first appearance for

Fiorentina could be a match against Corinthians due to be played in Italy in August.

He said he would not rejoin a local club when his Italian contract expired because he wanted to concentrate on his medical career.

"The only time I would play in Brazil would be if I am called to take part in World Cup elimination games. Of course, I'd like to play the World Cup in Mexico," Socrates said.

According to unconfirmed reports Corinthians will receive \$3.3 million for the transfer while the 30-year-old star will earn about \$2.3 million for the two-year contract plus other benefits.

Socrates said Sunday that political developments in Brazil had influenced his decision to join the

Italian club. He expressed disappointment that parliament had rejected a constitutional amendment which would have provided for direct presidential elections.

"Like the majority of Brazilian people, I was disappointed that the amendment failed to pass. I think, for the moment, there is nothing I can do to help change the political situation of the country," he said.

Corinthians Vice-President Adilson Monteiro Alves said the final details of Socrates' transfer were yet to be settled with Fiorentina officials.

Monteiro Alves said an official announcement would be made soon. "Corinthians are losing the best player of their history," he said.

Kenyan wins 12-kilo metre Bay to Breakers road race

SAN FRANCISCO (R) — Kenyan Ibrahim Hussein outspurred American Paul Cummings Sunday to win the 12 km Bay to Breakers run, the largest road race in the world with a 100,000-strong field.

Hussein, a former student at the University of New Mexico, led the race — from San Francisco bay through the city and ending at the Pacific Ocean — throughout and clocked 35 minutes 11 seconds. Cummings was second in 35:12, while defending champion Rod Dixon of New Zealand, winner of the 1983 New York Marathon, was third in 36:11.

"The race wasn't that fast," said Hussein, who was running 12 km, the longest distance of his career, for the second time.

Next month, Hussein will attempt to qualify for the Kenyan

Olympic team in the 5,000 metres and 3,000 metres steeplechase.

Californian Nancy Ditz, seventh in the U.S. Olympic Marathon trials last weekend, was the first women finisher. She clocked 42:31.5.

Pakistani wins \$4,333 squash championship

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP) — Qamar Zaman of Pakistan, fighting to regain his world no. 1 ranking, easily defeated compatriot Maqsood Ahmad 45-1 to win the Malaysian Squash Championship here Sunday night. Zaman collected 10,000 ringgits (\$4,333) while Ahmad won 7,500 ringgits (\$3,249) for second place.

The championship here is the third and last leg of the South East Asian circuit with total prize money of \$75,000. Zaman, who is ranked second in the world, won the Singapore leg last Sunday and the Hong Kong leg two weeks ago.

Magdi Saad of Egypt took third place by defeating Gogi Allaouian of Pakistan 9-5, 7-9, 10-8, 6-1, retired.

"I expected a much harder fight from Ahmad but the challenge was never there," Zaman said, expressing satisfaction with his play throughout the three tournaments.

Zaman, who was ranked first in the world in 1975, 1978 and 1980, said his ambition was to regain the number one position.

"Although many say it will be difficult, it is not impossible because I have given Jehangir Khan (current world no. 1) some anxious moments before," Zaman added.

Jordan Times

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Gower's return comes to soggy end

LONDON (R) — David Gower's long-awaited comeback after three weeks' absence with blood poisoning met a soggy end Sunday.

Gower, vying with Bob Willis for the England captaincy for the forthcoming series of cricket tests and one-day internationals against the West Indies, faced only 13 balls during Leicestershire's reply to Somerset's 189 for eight in their Sunday League match at Leicester.

A cut finger which turned septic led to Gower being sidelined.

In one of only two matches to beat the weather, Yorkshire, the defending champions, stayed at the foot of the table after losing to Nottinghamshire by 19 runs.

Leonard relieved after 2nd retirement

WORCESTER, Massachusetts (R) — There was a slight swelling under his right eye, but the ever-present smile still lit up his handsome, otherwise unmarked face. It was the morning after his first, and last, comeback fight. And Sugar Ray Leonard said he was relieved that, once and for all, he had retired from the ring.

Leonard always was unique, something special in the cruel sport of boxing. And he had again proved his singularity by going out as a winner, having stopped Kevin Howard of Philadelphia in the ninth round of their scheduled 10-round fight at the Worcester Centrum on Friday night.

"I'm relieved that it's over," the former welterweight and junior middleweight champion said as he prepared to leave for his Maryland home with his pregnant wife, Juanita, and their 10-year-old son, Ray Jr.

"I had to prove something to myself. And I found that it just wasn't there anymore, mentally." Leonard stunned the boxing world by announcing, less than an hour after the fight, he was retiring "for good" because of his unimpressive performance against the 23-year-old Howard, who knocked Leonard down for the first time in his professional career.

"My concentration just wasn't there, and I'm convinced that it wouldn't be any different if I went on," said the 27-year-old Leonard, who ended his career with 33 victories and a lone defeat at the hands of Roberto Duran of Panama. "Even if I knocked him

U.S., Soviets agree in principle to clear politics from international games

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. and Soviet Olympic officials have agreed in principle to work to remove the "dark cloud" of politics hanging over the future of the international games, one of those involved in the agreement says.

"We are working on a paper of mutual understanding to be executed sometime in the future," F. Don Miller, executive director of the U.S. Olympic Committee, told a news conference Sunday.

Miller, stating that the cooperation would not end the Soviet boycott of this summer's Olympics in Los Angeles, said an "agreement in principle" was reached with Soviet officials at meetings last Friday in Lausanne, Switzerland.

Officials of the two superpowers agreed to co-operate "in the interests of preserving, supporting and enhancing the Olympic movement in the future," Miller said.

"There is now a dark cloud hanging over the Olympic movement," he said. "It creates a challenge to reasonable men to maintain a dialogue on how to ensure the continuation of the Olympic movement."

Miller also announced that U.S. and Soviet officials had discussed future exchange programmes involving athletes, coaches and sports medicine experts.

Miller, who said negotiations with the Soviets would take place "as soon as possible... immediately," reported receiving indications that the Soviets will not stage their own games to compete

with the Los Angeles Olympics. He added, however, that the Soviets might "conduct, in two or three sports, competitions at isolated sites."

He mentioned the possibility of track and swimming meets, but he refused to say what the U.S. Olympic Committee's position would be if American athletes wanted to participate.

Miller said he expects the Soviets continue to work to influence other nations to join the boycott that has drawn one other nation and, Miller estimated, would involve as many as "25 or 30" by the time the Los Angeles competition begins July 28.

The vice president of the International Amateur Boxing Association said in San Juan, Puerto Rico, that he does not expect Cuba to join the boycott.

"I don't have the slightest doubt that Cuba will be at the games," said Hector Cardona. "Cuba has no security problem when it competes in the United States."

A decision by the Cuban Olympic Committee is expected Wednesday.

Miller, reporting of the emergency meeting Friday of the International Olympic Committee, said the U.S. committee had urged the IOC to consider setting up permanent sites for the summer games and finding nations for boycotting.

He said the proposal envisions one site on each of the world's continents, with the games rotating every four years. He said the idea got "no response" from the IOC.

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Bangladesh begins to pipe gas reserves to port city

DHAKA (R) Bangladesh has begun to pipe some of its vast but under-used natural gas reserves to the industrial coastal city of Chittagong (to reduce dependence on imported oil). Energy Ministry officials said Monday.

The new 200-kilometre pipeline, built in two years for more than \$100 million, will carry 60 million cubic feet (1.7 million cubic metres) of gas daily from the Bakhrabad field to Chittagong's power stations, steel mills and its oil refinery, the only one in the country.

President Hossain Mohammad Ershad commissioned the pipeline at a ceremony in Chittagong Sunday saying it would help Bangladesh cut its import bills.

Oil cost the country two-thirds of its export earnings of \$750 million in the fiscal year ending last June, according to official figures.

Taiwan, Iran conclude first barter trade accord

TAIPEI (R) — Taiwan has concluded its first barter trade agreement with Iran involving the purchase of about 30 million barrels of crude oil, the Carroway Investments Company (H.K.) Taiwan branch, said Monday.

Abdul Wahab Ali Al Falaji, director of the Bahrain-based Multi-National Trading Company which represented Iran, told Reuters that Carroway signed an agreement with the Chinese Petroleum Corporation (CPC) and the Board of Foreign Trade (BOFT) on April 21.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — The market closed mixed with lack of any fresh factors making for a dull session, dealers said. At 1500 hrs. the F.T.-S.E. 100 share index rose 1.6 to 1,106.5.

Oil met some demand reflecting concern over the situation in the Gulf. B.P. rose 8p to 538 and Britoil gained 7p to 265. Norsk Hydro moved to 67 from 61½ sig. after weekend press speculation that it may offer shares in the U.S.

Gold shares firmed up to five pence with the bullion price and gains among government bonds ranged to ¼ point helped by the higher trend in U.S. credit markets Friday. North Americans were quiet and mixed.

Life insurances met renewed speculative demand with London and Manchester group up 23p to 503 but composites eased slightly. In mixed banks, Barclays added 5p to 482 but Natwest lost 7p to 642.

British Aerospace firmed afresh rising 14p to 330 still on the merger talks with Thorn EMI, down 4p to 357. ICL rose 3p to 65p. Sainsbury gained 3p to 545 and Whitbread added a penny to 167 all ahead of results Tuesday.

Channel Tunnel moved to 148 from 125 ahead of Tuesday's report on the cross channel tunnel from a group of French and British banks.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One sterling	1.3920/30	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.2947/50	Canadian dollars
	2.7647/57	West German marks
	3.1075/85	Swiss francs
	2.2722/32	French francs
	56.14/17	Belgian francs
	8.4900/50	Italian lire
	1703.00/1704.00	Japanese yen
	233.10/20	Swedish crowns
	8.1050/1100	Norwegian crowns
	7.8575/8625	Danish crowns
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JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

GLEEY
CERDY
YESWIL
SHORCC

But he won't eat any pet food I buy him!

WHAT THAT FINICKY DOG WAS.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: "OOOOO-OOO"

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: WELSH CROAK POTTER CANKER
Answer: What a guy who doesn't like having time on his hands should get—A POCKET WATCH

32,000 more German workers join in metalworkers strike

BONN (R) — A crippling week-old strike in the West German automobile industry spread to the state of Hesse Monday as 32,000 more workers joined stoppages in support of a 35-hour working week.

The strike, the first all-out stoppage in Hesse for 33 years, halted production at the giant Opel car factory near Frankfurt and hit eight other plants in the region, the metalworkers Union IG Metall said.

The stoppages, which threaten to shut down the entire West German car industry within days, took the number of workers on strike or laid off because of a shortage of vital spare parts to more than 100,000.

The total will climb by 65,000 Tuesday when employers hit back with lockouts at 35 plants in the Stuttgart area, where the strike wave began last Monday at component makers.

Union leader Hans Mayr told 1,000 pickets outside the Opel plant that the strikes for a five-hour cut in the 40-hour week with no loss of pay would continue until the union got results.

He accused the centre-right government and employers, both firmly opposed to the union's demand, of acting "arm in arm" to remove the right to work.

Mr. Mayr said he hoped national crisis talks, approved in principle by both employers and the union but not yet given a firm date, would take place soon, although he repeated the union's rejection of a national settlement.

A spokesman for Opel, owned by the giant U.S. General Motor Corporation, said he expected that production at the firm's two other West German plants would cease around mid-week because of a shortage of parts.

By the weekend, only Ford will still be producing vehicles but they, too, say they may have to shut their two West German and one Belgian plant next week.

Volkswagen expects to shut its six West German plants on Wednesday and Porsche a day earlier.

Last week's closures involved Daimler-Benz, makers of Mercedes cars, BMW and the two main plants of Volkswagen's Audi subsidiary.

Next weekend could see up to 200,000 workers made idle by the dispute, with no immediate end to the conflict in sight.

Employers leaders met Sunday in Frankfurt and welcomed IG Metall's acceptance of their offer of urgent talks to settle the dispute.

But IG Metall Chairman Hans Mayr made clear the union had no intention of going along with the employers' desire to settle the dispute at national level.

He said the talks — a date had still not been set for them Sunday night — would be used to explain to the employers why agreements must be reached by regional negotiations in each specific contract area.

IG Metall, which represents 2.5 million workers, claims a cut in working hours is necessary to provide more jobs for industry at a time when 2.25 million people are unemployed in West Germany.

Industry and the government say this would have the opposite effect by making West German exports too costly. They propose earlier retirement as a means of increasing jobs.

U.S. officials see 'harmony' at London summit

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. officials predict harmony on political issues at the seven-nation economic summit in London next month, with virtually none of the criticism of President Reagan marking some earlier heads-of-state meetings.

The talks on June 7-9 will bring together the government heads of Britain, the United States, Japan, West Germany, Italy, France and Canada for their annual review of the world economy.

As usual, world political crises also will be discussed. U.S. officials said the Iran-Iraq war as well as deteriorating Soviet-American relations were certain to come up.

Administration officials said they believed the atmosphere in

Europe and its refusal to resume separate talks on reducing strategic arms — Mr. Reagan offered to open a "constructive dialogue for peace."

An official who has just briefed reporters said there now was harmony between the United States and Western Europe, following calls by West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl for a U.S.-Soviet summit and pressure on Mr. Reagan from others to make concessions in the arms control talks.

The official, who asked not to be identified, said West European leaders favoured Reagan policies in the current period of tension between the two superpowers and were likely to register their support during the London Summit.

Moscow's decision to boycott the Los Angeles summer Olympics was viewed by the Reagan administration as another sign the Kremlin has put contacts with Washington in "the deep freeze."

The U.S. official said Western European leaders agreed with Mr. Reagan that the deterioration in Soviet-American relations was Moscow's fault.

"We didn't walk away from the Geneva (arms control) negotiating tables," he said. "We're no pressure from the Europeans or Japan to make any concessions..."

Economic miracle in Cyprus heads for trouble

By Thomas O'Dwyer
Reuters

NICOSIA — Rising wages, low exports and a growing budget deficit are threatening the economic miracle of the politically troubled island of Cyprus.

Cyprus, which boasted an average 10 per cent annual growth rate between 1975 and 1980 after pulling out of a slump, is now showing signs of economic weakness again, prompting some experts to express fears about a second decline.

The economy here was first shattered a decade ago, following the Turkish invasion that divided Cyprus between its Greek-Cypriot majority and 20 per cent Turkish-Cypriot minority.

Turkey took over some 37 per cent of the island and nearly half the 500,000 Greek Cypriots became refugees to the south.

Disruption, decay and a drop in tourist revenue took their toll. The gross domestic product, mea-

suring the value of goods and services, fell by 17 per cent in 1974 and by 20 per cent the following year.

Then came the recovery. Aided by a drive to rebuild Cyprus' battered tourist industry, economic planners in Nicosia achieved what foreign bankers said was an economic miracle.

About 620,000 tourists visited southern Cyprus last year compared with just 47,000 in 1975 after the loss to the Turks of the main tourist centres of Famagusta-Varosha and Kyrenia.

But now, say some bankers and businessmen, the boom years have passed and old, familiar danger signs threaten the Cyprus economy once more.

Recent reports by banks and other institutions say that increasing budget deficit, high wages and a poor export performance could erode the prosperity enjoyed in the Greek-Cypriot controlled southern part of the island.

Andreas Avraamides, president of the Cyprus Chamber of Commerce, charges that little has been

done to cope with a trade deficit of more than \$600 million and what he termed an "alarming" 1983 budget deficit of more than \$160 million.

He told the chamber's annual meeting, attended by senior government officials, that the island's public debt was directly related, a 100 per cent rise in wages over the past five years and to "consumption frenzy in the public sector."

Government officials admit to danger signs in the economy, but say that adequate steps are being taken to counter them. They point to visible signs of prosperity and to the budget announced last January planning new taxation and import curbs.

Commerce and Industry Minister George Andreou has said the economy was satisfactory, despite problems which the government was tackling.

Tourism, he said, brought in over \$300 million in foreign exchange last year, contributing immensely to the overall economy.

Exchange reserves in Cyprus rose to \$581 million in 1983 compared with \$506 million in 1982 — enough to cover six months of current imports.

But despite the continuing rise in tourist arrivals — up 13 per cent last year from 1982 — some experts warn that the industry's profitability may have passed its peak.

The Chairman of the Cyprus Hoteliers Association, Andreas Evryviades-Wisdon, told journalists recently that hoteliers were worried by falling room occupancy rates.

Ministers keep close watch on developments and several studies are grappling with how to diversify industry and commerce.

The government is taking part in a U.N. development programme study of possible new energy sources. Cyprus imported \$210 million worth of crude for its refinery last year, mostly from Iraq and Libya.

Moreover, talks are due to start soon on achieving a customs union with the European Community.

UAE economy shrinks

ABU DHABI (R) — Falling oil revenues caused the economy of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to shrink by 13.5 per cent in 1983, the country's Central Bank said Monday.

The bank gave no figure for gross domestic product, but said the contribution of oil to the economy slid 25.2 per cent to 41.8 billion dirhams (\$11.4 billion) in 1983.

The Central Bank's annual report said government oil revenues fell 22 per cent to 27 billion dirhams (\$7.4 billion), leading total revenues caused the economy of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to shrink by 13.5 per cent in 1983, the country's Central Bank said Monday.

Public expenditure also fell to 37.9 billion dirhams (\$10.3 billion) from 42.2 billion.

The Central Bank said UAE exports fell to less than 56 billion dirhams (\$15.3 billion) in 1983 from 66.9 billion dirhams (\$18.2 billion), with oil exports sliding to 42 billion dirhams (\$11.4 billion) from 53.1 billion in 1982.

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, MAY 22, 1984 YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The affliction of the Moon and the Sun may make it somewhat difficult to put some plans into motion. Nevertheless the daytime is good for thinking up grandiose schemes.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Contact good friends who can help you to gain personal wishes, and then talk with outside partners about having greater mutual success.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You can accomplish a good deal in the world of activity provided you do not let some private anxiety deter your progress.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You have new plans that are very good so put them in operation quickly in an up-to-date manner, and don't let anyone stop you.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Find some way of improving the relationship between you and your mate and forget any extra-curricular activity.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Avoid a demanding higher-up and cooperate more with an associate and then you can accomplish a good deal today.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) You find it hard to make changes at your job so postpone for awhile when you have fewer interruptions. Be wise.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Make arrangements for entertainment later in the week even though delays may occur. You may have a problem to contend with.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) There may be some turmoil at home, so get out in the business world and accomplish a good deal. Be happy at home tonight.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Find the right way of making your relations with others more interesting and satisfying. Enjoy yourself socially.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Find the right way of getting your financial affairs in better order. Show your mate that you really care and be happier together.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You want to make real progress but find it difficult in the morning; don't get discouraged. Be with cheerful people and be happy.

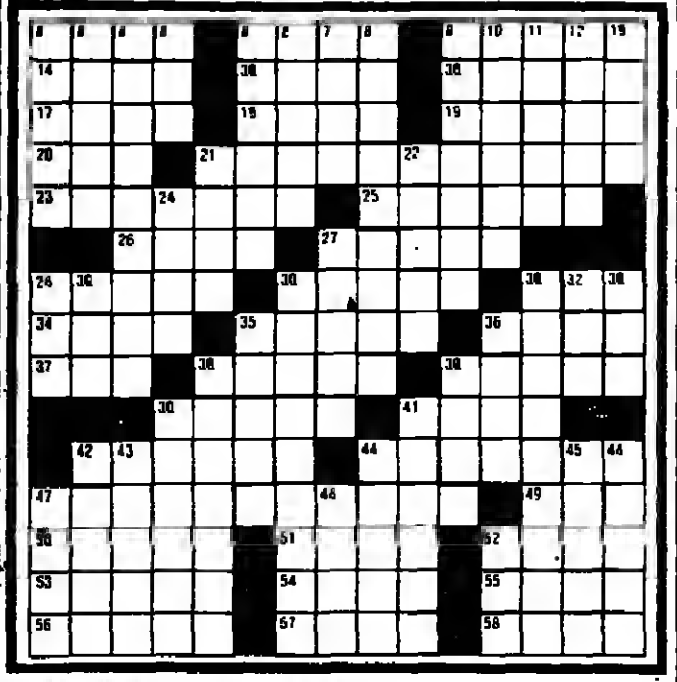
PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Be sure you handle those private affairs although you feel you want to forget them. Show appreciation.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he will be one who can easily adapt new ideas to standard ones and should be given a chance to do so. Give a comprehensive education since later years bring great happiness and success, and early training is important.

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!
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THE Daily Crossword by Mary C. Whitten

ACROSS	27 Docks	49 Biblical	22 Attention-seeking
1 Army staple	28 Metric measure	50 Winglike	24 Calhoun of Illinois
5 Packa	30 School dances	51 Roman poet	26 Pigeon
9 Free, to	31 Arthur or Lilie	52 Movie dog	27 Pig
10 Claudius	32 Breezy	53 "Heaven's"	28 Paulo
14 Olive gunia	33 Grammar items	54 Headliner	29 Pourboire
15 Iridescent fish	34 Swiss city	55 Fencing move	30 Incipient
16 Constrictor kin	35 Planter's goddass	56 Towel word	31 Magnummoused
17 Panache	36 Precious metals	57 DOWN	32 Fish-eating bird
18 Ger. city	37 Titan	1 Garden workers	33 Pensive
19 Send	38 Drop-laat, e.g.	2 Islamic deity	35 High-minded
20 Br. fliers	41 Onor	3 Mariners	36 Cholar
21 Magician's glibberish	42 Calmly	4 Chin. dynasty	37 Collection of paintings
22 Acutely	44 Atr. river	5 "Chahtar"	38 Early TV
23 Mottla	46 Lady	6 Writer	39 Be unsteady
26 Stein subject		7 Cleveland	40 Lika
		8 Lotobrigida	41 stained windows
		9 Gives	42 Inner temple
		10 permission	43 Walking — (related)
		11 Construction components	44 Strike down
		12 Frozen dessert	45 Place of sacrifice
		13 Eastem nabobs	46 Mythomanties
		14 Fr. —	47 Pant
		15 Choir locus	48 Haid shape
			52 Residue



Gandhi goes to riot zone as death toll rises to 105

BOMBAY (R) — Troops moved into the streets of Bombay to stop Hindu-Muslim fighting Monday as Prime Minister Indira Gandhi flew to riot-torn areas where more than 100 people have been killed, the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency reported.

Gandhi, who faces a crucial test of popular support in 24 by-elections in 14 of the country's 22 states, went on a helicopter tour of the worst hit areas in southwestern Maharashtra state.

Police opened fire in seven suburbs of the state capital, Bombay, and three areas of the nearby industrial town of Thane Sunday night as rival mobs battled with iron bars and stones.

The latest attacks brought the death toll to 105 with about 300 injured, PTI said Monday. Troops took up positions in Bombay, India's financial centre, to stem spreading unrest.

More than 2,000 people have been arrested in four days of religious feuding and more than 6,000 people have lost their homes.

On the first of two days of local

elections, two people died and more than 40 were injured Sunday as rival party workers clashed at polling stations in several states, PTI said.

Voting in two states continued Monday with tight security clamped on polling booths for fear of further clashes.

Indian newspapers have said the local polls are an important test for Mrs. Gandhi's ruling Congress (I) Party which is preparing for parliamentary elections within a few months.

Mrs. Gandhi must call for general elections by January, when her term of office expires.

Fresh sectarian violence broke out in the north Indian state of Punjab Sunday when a businessman was shot dead and two other people were wounded by

gunmen in the Sikh holy city of Amritsar.

An irrigation worker was shot and seriously wounded by Sikh extremists near the Punjab town of Patiala. In Amritsar shots were exchanged when security forces blocked attempts by militant Sikhs to fortify a building next to the Golden Temple, the Sikhs' holiest shrine.

PTI said Harchand Singh Longowal, president of the Sikhs' main party, the Akali Dal, described the incident as a direct attack on the temple. He urged the government to withdraw security forces from the vicinity of the sprawling complex.

More than 200 people have died in Sikh-Hindu killings in Punjab since the beginning of the year. PTI said about 20 people were injured Sunday during polling on the first of two days of by-elections for state assemblies.

Fears of spreading sectarian attacks overshadowed the poll, which Indian newspapers said was an important test of Mrs. Gandhi's popular support before national

parliamentary elections that must be held by January when her term of office expires.

Rival voters clashed with police and stoned each other in Marxist-ruled West Bengal, in Calcutta and the Andhra Pradesh state capital of Hyderabad. About 20 people were injured, including one person hurt in a Calcutta bomb blast, PTI said.

In the past four days, police have repeatedly fired on rival bands of Muslims and Hindus rampaging through several areas of Maharashtra, burning houses and stoning shops.

About 6,000 people have lost their homes and police have made about 2,000 arrests since the violence erupted last Thursday.

Officials have distributed emergency food supplies and set up two camps to cope with the exodus of refugees.

Home (interior) Minister P.C. Sethi was expected back from Bombay to report to Mrs. Gandhi on the Maharashtra crisis before the prime minister left to inspect the riot-hit area.



Fires burn at Bhiwandi, a textile centre 35 miles north west of Bombay, following rioting between Hindus and Muslims Saturday (AP wirephoto)

Ershad asked to fix election date

DHAKA (R) — The two main opposition alliances in Bangladesh say they will mount a fresh campaign against military rule unless President Hossain Mohammad Ershad announces a date for parliamentary elections immediately.

Leaders of the alliances, Sheikh Hasina Wazed and Begum Khaleda Zia, told separate rallies Sunday they would announce programmes for a "greater movement" after the Muslim fast of Ramadan which begins later this month.

The alliances, which group a total of 22 parties, are also supporting a call by trade unions for a 48-hour national strike from Tuesday.

The unions are pressing for an end to military rule, increases in wages and the scrapping of government plans for gradual transfer of state-owned industries to private ownership. They staged a stoppage on April 28 which paralysed the country for 24 hours.

The two alliances protested against Gen. Ershad's postponement of elections which were to have been held on May 27.

Gen. Ershad said 10 days ago that parliamentary polls would now be held around the end of this year, followed by a presidential election. He gave no dates for the votes.

His decision followed a month of talks with opposition leaders

who had wanted the parliamentary elections before the presidential vote.

"His plans showed that Gen. Ershad had kept options open for prolonging military rule and becoming elected president of the country," Mr. Khaleda Zia said.

Both alliance leaders referred to Gen. Ershad's speech at a meeting of the pro-government Janadali Party last week at which he was reported to have said government-backed candid would capture 250 seats in the 300-member parliament.

"This subscribes to our fears that future elections will be rigged," said Sheikh Hasina.

2 die in Alaska shootout, 8 missing

MANLY HOT SPRINGS, Alaska (R) — Police searching for eight missing people, including a toddler, following a shootout with a murder suspect said Sunday they had found blood-soaked ground near a river in the remote interior of Alaska.

The blood stains indicated that bodies had been thrown into the Tanana River, which flows into the Yukon River, they added. But the Tanana was in flood because of melting snow and ice and it could be months before any remains were found, they said.

The suspect, Mike Silka, 25, of Hoffman Estates, Illinois, was shot dead near the river on Friday after he opened fire with a high-

powered rifle at a helicopter carrying Alaskan state police. One policeman was killed.

Silka, a suspect in an earlier killing in Fairbanks, 160 kilometres to the south, was described by police as a drifter with a long criminal record.

The missing are six men who went to the river earlier on Friday and the wife and two-year-old son of one of them, police said.

The investigation began after the wife of one of the missing men called state police.

Local resident Bob Lee said the eight had gone to the river on Friday afternoon but it was not until later that day that relatives realised they were missing.

"It seemed everyone who went down to the river never came back," Mr. Lee said.

Illinois authorities had issued a warrant for the arrest of Silka, whose record included weapons-related offences as well as assault on a policeman, vandalism and burglary.

People here are mostly carpenters, fishermen, miners and trappers. The road to Manly Hot Springs from Fairbanks is accessible only in the summer.

West Europeans seek bigger voice on defence, security

By Sidney Weiland
Reuter

LONDON — For a complex variety of reasons, Western nations are considering a plan to give Europe a bigger voice in the West's U.S.-led defence structure.

Unless there are unexpected hitches, the largely somnolent Western European Union (WEU) — formed 30 years ago for still different reasons — may re-emerge in a more virile form.

WEU's revival was first proposed by France in 1981, part of a subtle policy correction that brought Paris slightly closer to the NATO alliance after 15 years of studied aloofness.

By using WEU as a clearing house for European ideas on defence, France could forge even warmer ties without reneging on President Charles de Gaulle's 1966 decision to withdraw French forces from NATO's integrated command structure.

The French proposal was originally greeted with some suspicion by the Reagan administration and with misgivings by major allies such as Britain and West Germany.

Now, there is growing support for a "European core" inside NATO, and senior Western officials say WEU is a ready-made forum where the next steps can be taken.

"The scenery has altered enormously in the last year," says a senior official at the union's placid London headquarters.

France has asked foreign ministers of the seven nations to meet in Paris on June 12, in hopes of giving WEU a distinct new role. It will be the highest-level WEU meeting since 1973.

The union was formed as a mutual defence club to give West Germany an acceptable military role after its defeat in the World War II and to compensate for the collapse of plans for a West European army, the European Defence Community, in 1954.

The members were and remain Belgium, Britain, France, West Germany, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands.

One of WEU's functions was to maintain curbs on German rearmament. A ban on the Bonn

government manufacturing certain missiles and heavy bombers is still in force but is expected to be lifted if the organisation takes on a new role.

Until 1973, when Britain joined the European Economic Community, WEU provided a framework for contacts between London and the founder members of the Community. It also ensured the presence of 55,000 British troops and air units in West Germany.

Overshadowed by the Community in the economic sphere and by NATO militarily, the WEU had little else to do.

Americans as well as Europeans are approaching the French plan hesitantly if benevolently. Most officials say European co-operation is welcome so long as it does not produce a querulous pressure group ganging up against Washington.

West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher says Europe "must emerge from its role as a lodger in the shelter of American strength" and should speak with one voice.

British Defence Minister Michael Heseltine agrees that co-operation on security issues should be improved, but cautions: "Our main concern must be to strengthen and not to undermine the American link."

Diplomats say the plan to inject new life into the union coincided with other developments which helped generate support.

France's partners are keen on military co-operation with Paris, which now belongs only to NATO's political wing. They realise a formula such as the WEU umbrella is needed because there is no foreseeable chance of reviving French insistence on an independent defence posture.

—The Reagan administration favours any stepped-up defence effort by European allies, provided this does not undercut NATO, which has 16 members, including the United States and Canada.

Former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, in a much-argued "plan to reshape NATO", has called for West European countries to take over major res-

ponsibility for conventional ground defence in the key European theatre.

—The WEU countries are all strategically located and Britain, France and West Germany already form a "top table" decision-making nucleus together with the United States.

—The re-activation of WEU would open a back channel for discussions on security among seven of the 10 European Community members, free from restraints by the other three.

Neutral Ireland, the only community member outside NATO, refuses to allow it to discuss defence. In Denmark, the Social Democratic opposition has tied the government's hands, forcing it to break ranks with NATO on some issues.

Greece, under a Socialist government since 1981, has consistently refused to align with NATO's missile-basing policy or to join in alliance criticisms of the Soviet Union.

Some diplomats say the plan for an enhanced WEU role gained a sudden boost last September when Greece paralysed the European Community by refusing to join in a vote condemning Moscow for shooting down a South Korean airliner with 269 people on board.

—A tighter Euro-mechanism within NATO would help France and West Germany develop military co-operation, a touchy prospect which these historical enemies are approaching cautiously.

WEU could provide a framework for France's 50,000-man Rapid Deployment Force to be sent to West Germany in an emergency.

—A European core in NATO might help allay the fears of West German Social Democrats and other left-wingers who are apprehensive about U.S. military policy, some diplomats say.

They believe a cogent European entity would also counter neutralist and pacifist tendencies.

The only other specifically European bodies within the NATO alliance are the "Eurogroup", which meets infrequently and does not include France, and a low-key committee which seeks to co-ordinate arms procurement.

El Salvador accused of mass murders

LONDON (AP) — The government of El Salvador was accused Monday of ordering the deaths of many of the estimated 40,000 people murdered there in the past five years.

Amnesty International said there had been "blatant failure" by authorities in the Central American republic to investigate the killings. It is the "authorities themselves who lie behind the wholesale extrajudicial executions," charged the London-based human rights group.

In a 48-page report on the civil war, Amnesty said the authorities' intimidation of lawyers, medical examiners and witnesses, manipulation on evidence and refusal to co-operate with international agencies seeking to identify the killers, also pointed to government involvement.

Without police investigations, the government's claim that the killings were carried out by right-wing extremists or the left-wing opposition couldn't be verified, it said.

Amnesty said its report was based on information from government sources, newspaper stories and testimony by survivors of death squad attacks collected in July last year. It quoted former army intelligence officer Roberto

D'Aubisson to back up its charge.

It said Mr. D'Aubisson, recently defeated in the Salvadorean presidential election, had stated that squads of soldiers were ordered to carry out killings and that fringe groups were not involved.

Amnesty quoted a national police defector as saying secret killing missions were undertaken by specially trained police units who often disguised themselves as students or opponents of the government.

A survivor of an attempted execution told Amnesty researchers that he was arrested by men in plain clothes, interrogated under torture at security forces headquarters lined up with others and shot in the head at close range. He was the only one to survive.

The report said decapitated and disfigured corpses were routinely dumped in heavily patrolled areas near police or military establishments to intimidate the population.

"The government's total failure to make any effort to apprehend those who dispose of corpses in this way — even though foreign investigators have often seen uniformed troops operating near these dumps — is a further clear indicator" of the government's involvement, the report said.

Europeans to launch first commercial rocket today

KOUROU, French Guiana (R) — The European space programme will take another step forward Tuesday with the launch of the ninth rocket in the Ariane series from its jungle base here, its first fully commercial shot.

Tuesday's launch, scheduled for 2030 local time (2330 GMT), is the first to be handled by Arianeespace, a company specially set up to exploit Ariane on the commercial space market.

Previous launches and development of the Ariane launcher family had been handled by the 11-nation European Space Agency (ESA), which still retains an interest in the rocket although Arianeespace will be in charge of

marketing it.

The payload will be a 1195 kilogramme telecommunications satellite for GTE-Spacenet, a private U.S. satellite communications company. It is the first time a U.S. private company has used a non-American launch system.

"This means we are well on our way to cornering a third of the commercial market for satellite launches," an Arianeespace official said.

The Spacenet-1 satellite due to be boosted into geostationary orbit 22,300 miles above the equator is one of three to be launched by Ariane rockets over the next two years.

Mc Govern: Mondale-Hart ticket could heal animosity

WASHINGTON (AP) — George McGovern, a dropout in the race for the Democratic presidential nomination, said Sunday that a Walter Mondale-Gary Hart ticket would be the "quickest way to heal" the animosity of the campaign, but Mondale refused to commit himself. Sen. Hart, meanwhile, said he would consider the Rev. Jesse Jackson, the third Democratic presidential candidate, as a possible running mate if he changed his views on the Middle East.

"I think he has earned the right to be considered as a party leader, including vice president," Sen. Hart said on a California interview show. But he added, "I think for

Rev. Jackson to be considered with me he would have to change his positions on the Middle East."

Mr. Mondale declined to comment on prospective running mates.

"I think it presumptuous to pick a vice president now," the former vice president said, although he stated unequivocally that he will get enough delegates to win the nomination.

Mr. McGovern interviewed on ABC-TV's This Week With David Brinkley, said there were no real "fundamental differences" between Sen. Hart and Mr. Mondale, who he said probably will be the Democratic presidential nominee.

Peking urges army units to support modernisation

PEKING (R) — Chinese leaders have urged the country's 3.2 million-strong armed forces to fully support the national drive towards modernisation, a policy that includes the opening of more coastal ports to foreign investment.

Yu Qianli, the director of the armed forces' political department, urged members of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) to support the opening up of these cities in an address last week to the National People's Congress, China's parliament.

Western analysts said the speech, reported by the New China News Agency (NCNA) and published in Monday's China Daily, appeared to indicate dissent within the armed forces over the liberalised economic policies.

Premier Zhao Ziyang has China will open up 14 more coastal cities to foreign investment as part of the modernisation move.

Yu was quoted as saying their opening would affect a number of military installations and part of the defence industry.

Some would be turned over to the local authorities and others used for both civilian and military purposes, he said.

"This will have a bearing on the opening of the coastal cities as well as unity between the army and the people," he added.

He urged army units to take the overall situation into consideration and act in accordance with the instructions of the central military commission, the report said.

Apparently indicating that some instructions had been questioned, he declared: "Every decision of the State Council (government) and the Central Military Commission must be carried out

resolutely."

Since the death of Mao Tse-tung in 1976 and the fall of the radical gang of four, defence has taken a back seat.

It has been placed fourth in a list of government priorities after agriculture, industry and science.

China's top leader Deng Xiaoping and head of the military commission, appears determined to ensure the army will not undermine his economic reforms and has launched a campaign to root out leftism within the military.

At a meeting last week in north-east China on his way back from North Korea, Communist Party Chief Hu Yaobang said the most urgent problem to be solved in the modernisation drive was lingering sympathy with old leftist ideas amongst cadres.

"We have many difficulties in the modernisation drive. But the biggest one is a subjective approach among our cadres and remnants 'leftist' trends in our policies," NCNA quoted Mr. Hu as saying at a meeting with army, naval and air force leaders.

He hoped that the military would set a good example in the party consolidation campaign and help clear away what he termed "leftist influences."

Mr. Hu urged the armed forces to aid civilian construction projects.

A recent edition of the army newspaper, the Liberation Army Daily, said China must be careful to ensure that the might of its armed forces remained in safe hands.

Implying that there might be those within the armed forces who could not be trusted, it said the army's guns must be "in the hands of those the party and the people can trust."

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
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DEATH IN KANSAS CITY

DEAR READERS: We have had many requests over the years for those hands that we consider to be our favorites. That makes quite a list. For the time being, therefore, we are devoting the Sunday column to a series of famous hands. At the end of the series, we will go back to our weekly question and answer column.

NORTH
♦ A1063
♥ 1085
♦ 4
♦ A9842

WEST ♦ Q72
♥ A3
♦ A1092
♦ J6

EAST ♦ 4
♥ Q94
♦ KJ763
♦ Q753

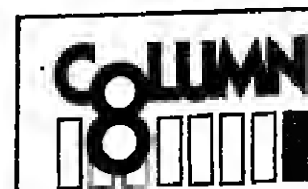
SOUTH ♦ KJ985
♥ K762
♦ 85
♦ K10

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♦ 2 ♦ 4 ♦ Pass
Pass Pass
Opening lead: Ace of ♦.

Sept. 29, 1929 was a balmy evening in Kansas City. Myrtle and John Bennett sat down for their weekly bridge game with Myrna and Charles Hoffman. Things did not go well for the Bennetts, and they were at each other's throats even before this hand came along.

Sitting South, John Bennett elected to open one spade. Those of our readers who feel that he should be shot for making such a bid are right. In fact, he was!

Against four spades, West led the ace of diamonds and shifted to the jack of clubs.



Japanese unveil pocket-size TV

TOKYO (R) — The marketing arm of the Seiko watch-making group Monday unveiled what it said was the first pocket-size colour television using a liquid crystal screen. The sets will go on sale here in August at 84,800 yen and in the United States in September at \$500 to \$550 and the firm hopes to sell 30,000 sets in each country in the first six months. "We're trying to create a new market for the personal TV," Executive Director of Hattori Seiko, Yukio Asano, told a press conference. Weighing in at 450 grammes, the set has a two-inch square screen, and measures 16 cm by 8 by 3.1. A new mass production process for the liquid crystal screen, developed by Seiko's manufacturing firm Suwa Seikosha, has given the company a two-year lead over its rivals, Mr. Asano said.

Schoolboy remanded as murder suspect

NICOSIA (R) — A 14-year-old schoolboy has been remanded in custody as a murder suspect after another boy died following a fight in a weekend soccer match here, police said. The victim, 15-year-old Marios Georgiou, died in hospital after he was punched and kicked while refereeing a game for his classmates. Police said Costa Evgeniou, who was taken into custody, was remanded for eight days by a district court judge pending police investigation into the fight. Hospital sources said surgeons had managed to restore Georgiou's failed heartbeat for a short while but he died of brain damage.

China has big plans for small island

PEKING (R) — China is planning to turn a small island off the south China coast west of Hong Kong into a major Asian oil and port centre, the official China Daily said Monday. Donghai Island, near the port of Zhanjiang, would be opened up under the government's policy of opening China up to the West, the daily said. It would eventually become part of a special economic zone offering better business incentives to foreign firms than in China's existing four special economic zones, the paper quoted local Party Secretary Wen Ge as saying.

Japanese cannibal sent home

PARIS (R) — A Japanese national who murdered and then devoured a Dutch student in Paris in 1981 was put on a plane bound for Tokyo Tuesday after being released from a French psychiatric hospital, airport sources said. Police said Issai Sagawa, 33, would be confined to a psychiatric institution in Japan on arriving there. Legal sources said his family had requested his return. Sagawa, a self-confessed cannibal who killed Renee Hartevelt in June 1981 and ate part of her body in one of France's most grisly crimes, left Charles de Gaulle International Airport under police and medical escort at 11:00 a.m. (0900 GMT).

Mountaineers to try unclimbed peak

LONDON (R) — British mountaineers Chris Bonington and Alan Rouse left Sunday for the Himalayas, to attempt one of the few major unclimbed peaks left in the world. The two men are to scale the 8,000-metre Karun Koh in Pakistan, 11 kilometres from the Chinese border. Everest veteran Bonington, 49, told reporters at London's Heathrow Airport: "No Europeans have ever been in the area before and the great appeal of this mountain is the mystery of it. It's a challenge and it should be great fun."

Discovery starts 4 weeks of tests

CAPE CANIVARAL, Florida (AP) — Discovery, the third ship in the U.S. space shuttle fleet, rolled to the launch pad Saturday for four weeks of tests leading to its maiden launch next month. The \$1.2 billion space shuttle strapped to two booster rockets and a huge fuel tank, rode upright on the back of a massive tracked transporter for the 3.6 kilometres trip from the vehicle assembly building to launch complex 39 A. The transporter began a slow journey at 4:45 a.m. (0845 GMT) and was expected to take six hours to reach the pad.